FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 30 *13 February 1978*

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT & SALT

PRAVDA Editorial Article Discusses SALT Problems, Prospects [11 Feb] AA 1 1/A6

CSCE/MBFR

Hungarian MBFR Delegate: Constructive Approach Imperative BB 1 1/B1
Moscow Proposes Post-Belgrade Meetings on Security, Disarmament BB 2 1/B1

GENERAL

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' [Kaverznev, Grigoryants, Matveyev] A 1 1/B3
Belgrade Conference A 1 1/B3
European Socialist Economies A 2 1/B4
Western Economic Crisis A 3 1/B5
Mideast, Horn of Africa A 5 1/B7
Vietnam-Cambodia Conflict A 7 1/B9
PRC-EEC Trade Agreemert A 8 1/B10

UNITED STATES

U.S. Politicians Should Not Ignore 'Nuclear War Danger' [Zorin] B 1 1/B11
Shcharanskiy Case 'Provocative Political Campaign' [Vladimirov] B 2 1/B12
Vietnamese UN Envoy Departs U.S. After Spy Charges B 3 1/B13
New York Demonstration B 4 1/B14
Intensification of Arms Race 'Evokes Alarm' in U.S. [Soltan] B 4 1/B14
'Wide Discontent With Gap' Between Washington's Words, Deeds [Ablamov] B 5 1/C1
Increased U.S. Military Activity in Indian Ocean Reported [Shatikov] B 6 1/C2
U.S. Military Aid to Persian Gulf Criticized B 7 1/C3
Pentagon Decides To Manufacture New 'Spy Plane' B 8 1/C4
Loopholes Seen in New U.S. Bill on Intelligence B 8 1/C4
CIA 'Serious Threat' to 'Progressive' African Countries B 9 1/C5
U.S., Soviet UN Association Discussion 'Useful' [Matyash] B 10 1/C6
Additional Report [Matyash] B 11 1/C7
Americans Protest 'New Onslaught' on Civil Rights [Babenko] B 11 1/C7

CHINA

Peking Scored for Collusion With Imperialists on Mideast [Glebov] C 1 1/C9
PRC Purge Continues; Charges of Soviet-ROK Collusion Rebuffed [Mulatov] C 2 1/C10
China Hit for 'Close Contacts' With Somoza, Pinochet Regimes C 3 1/C11

WEST EUROPE & CANADA

TASS Statement on Canada's Expulsion of Soviet Officials E 1 1/C12
Communique Issued on Austrian Chancellor Kreisky's Moscow Visit [PRAVDA 9 Feb] E 1 1/C12
Kreisky Praises Growth in Cooperation in 7 Feb Moscow Speech [PRAVDA 8 Feb] E 4 1/D1
French Television Policy Termed Contrary to Helsinki Accords [Grigoriyev] E 5 1/D2
Criticism in PRAVDA [Korionov] E 6 1/D3
FRG Accused of Violating Postwar Arms Restrictions E 7 1/D4

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

As-Sadat Seeks Support as Foreign Tour Continues F 1 1/D5
Austria, Romania Visits F 1 1/D5
No Results in U.S. [Gerasimov] F 1 1/D5
U.S. Supports Separate Talks [Glazunov] F 1 1/D5
Israeli Settlements 'Key' to Mideast Settlement F 2 1/D6
Lebanese Situation Remains Tense, Peace Efforts Continue F 3 1/D7
Sarkis, Khaddam Meet F 3 1/D7
Cease-fire Effected, Communique Issued F 3 1/D7
Beirut Calm, South Tense [Borisov] F 4 1/D8
'Arafat Visit Possible; Al-Asad Visit Set for 20 February [AFP] F 4 1/D8
Brezhnev Congratulates Syria's Al-Asad on Reelection F 5 1/D9
Al-Asad Reelection Message F 5 1/D9
Syrian President Speaks on Algiers Summit, As-Sadat's Policy F 6 1/D10
Libya's Jallud To Visit Soviet Union in Mid-February F 6 1/D10

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Brezhnev Congratulates Cyprus President on Reelection G 1 1/ D11
Importance of UN Role in Solving Cyprus Problem Stressed [Salin in IZVESTIYA 8 Feb] G 1 1/D11

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

More Material on Ethiopia-Somalia Conflict H 1 1/D12
Ethiopian Statement H 1 1/D12
NATO 'Interference' [Shlenov] H 1 1/D12
Demonstrations in Ethiopia H 2 1/D13
Pressure on Ethiopia H 3 1/D14
Ethiopian Assault; Somali Mobilization H 3 1/D14
'Foreign Soldiers' With Somalis H 5 1/E2
Western Plans for Namibia Attributed to Profit Motive H 5 1/E2
Israeli Finance Minister's South Africa Visit Criticized H 6 1/E3
West Helps South Africa Produce 'Latest Kinds of Weapons' [Kosovan] H 7 1/E4
3-Day British-Sudanese Military Exercises End H 7 1/E4

SOUTH ASIA

Soviet Delegate Pulls Out of Indian Ocean Conference J 1 1/E5
[Winchester in THE GUARDIAN 10 Feb]

INDOCHINA

Cambodia Rejects Peace Proposals, Blames SRV Without Reason L 1 1/E6
Border Inhabitants 'Bewildered' by Cambodian Leaders' Actions L 1 1/E6
[PRAVDA 31 Jan]
SRV Radio Official Reiterates Vietnamese Peace Proposal L 2 1/E7
Vietnamese Radio Assessment of Cambodian's Statement Cited L 3 1/E8

NORTHEAST ASIA

Wide Support for DPRK Government Memorandum Noted M 1 1/E9
[Krushinsky]
Japanese Indignant Over U.S. Navy Nuclear Presence M 1 1/E9
U.S. Exerts Growing Pressure on Japan To Militarize M 2 1/E10

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Masherov Named Hero of Socialist Labor on 60th Birthday R 1 1/E11
Romanov Attends Leningrad Komsomol Report-Back Conference R 1 1/E11
Berdyyev Appointed New Turkmen Internal Affairs Minister R 1 1/E11
[TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA 1 Feb]
New Chairman of Georgian Construction Committee Named R 1 1/E11
[ZARYA VOSTOKA 3 Feb]
Briefs: Award to Aleksandrov R 1 1/E11

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

High Achievers in Competition To Increase Efficiency Named S 1 1/E12

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Moscow Radio Reports Agricultural News for 7-10 February T 1 1/E13
Resolution on Improving Sugar Beet, Potato Strains T 1 1/E13
[IZVESTIYA 4 Feb]

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Cosmonauts' Activities Continue Aboard Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 Complex U 1 1/F1
Day of Active Rest U 1 1/F1
9 Weeks of Manned Flight U 1 1/F1
Progress of Work Reviewed U 1 1/F1
Salyut-6 Nearing 1,000 Orbits U 2 1/F2

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

'Berezina' Military Exercises in Belorussia End 10 February V 1 1/F3
Zaytsev Assesses Exercises V 1 1/F3

I 29.852:8-8 Pr Ex 7.10:FBIS-SOV-78-30

FEB 24 1978

FBIS-SOV-78-30
Monday
13 February 1978
Vol III No 30

DAILY REPORT

CONTROL

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

SOVIET UNION

Available for Distribution
From NTIS

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

This publication contains current news and commentary monitored by FBIS from foreign broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, and periodicals. Items are processed from the first or best available source; it should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign-language sources are translated by FBIS. Those from English-language sources are transcribed, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS. Labels such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how FBIS processed the information from the original. Names rendered phonetically or in transliteration are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clearly heard but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source.

Users of this publication may cite FBIS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying it as the secondary source. For example: "FBIS reports that Radio Moscow announced . . ." or "FBIS has monitored a broadcast from Hanoi which says . . ."

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE DISCUSSES SALT PROBLEMS, PROSPECTS

LD131205Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Editorial Article: "The Task of Limiting Strategic Arms: Prospects and Problems"]

[Text] Practical measures to lessen the military danger, end the arms race and make the transition to actual disarmament are assuming increasing significance in the matter of deepening the relaxation of international tension. For objective reasons these very questions have been placed at the center of international life, and the way they are resolved will determine to a considerable extent the prospects for the future development of human civilization. "International relations," L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, stresses, "are now, as it were, at a cross road leading either to the growth of trust and cooperation or to the growth of mutual fears and suspicions and to stockpiling of weapons--roads leading ultimately either to lasting peace or at best to teetering on the brink of war. Detente provides the possibility of choosing the path of peace. It would be a crime to let this possibility pass. The most important and most urgent task at this time is to end the arms race which has swept over the world."

The problem of limiting strategic arms has a special position in resolving this task. It is therefore no coincidence that the talks being conducted on this score between the Soviet Union and the United States arouse the interest of the entire international public. These talks already have a history of their own marked by substantial practical landmarks such as the treaty on the limitation of ABM systems, the interim agreement on certain measures regarding the limitation of strategic offensive arms, and the Vladivostok accord on the conclusion of a new long-term agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. Here the 1974 Vladivostok accord marked a new stage in solving the problem, opening an opportunity to encompass additional elements of the two countries' strategic forces and to limit them both quantitatively and qualitatively. It is well known, however, that work to formulate this agreement has so far not been completed for reasons not depending on the USSR.

The Soviet Union has consistently and constructively pursued a line aimed at completing this work in strict accordance with what was agreed on in Vladivostok on the basis of strict observance of the principle of the equality and identical security of the sides.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about the American side. Without going into detail, it should be recalled that the negotiating process has developed extremely unevenly and, particularly in the initial stages, was accompanied by serious difficulties. This was linked with the submission by the American side of proposals essentially aimed at overturning the Vladivostok accord and obtaining patent advantages for the United States. It took time and great efforts--primarily during the Soviet-American meeting in Moscow in March 1977, in May of the same year in Geneva, and in September in Washington--for a more sober and considered [vzveshennyy] line to begin to show in the American approach.

As a result it proved possible to turn the talks back toward the essential guidelines [napravleniya] jointly determined in Vladivostok and concretized during subsequent discussions. As a result of the USSR foreign minister's talks with the U.S. President and secretary of state in Washington last September, definite progress was achieved in finding solutions to major questions on which agreement had not been reached. This was possible primarily because of the consistent and constructive line of the USSR and also because of elements of flexibility and realism displayed by the American side. [paragraph continues]

Both sides reiterated their determination to conclude a new agreement and firmly voiced their intention to continue active negotiations in order to complete the work on this agreement in the near future.

Subsequent statements by U.S. President J. Carter and other American leaders have repeatedly stressed the great importance of reaching a new agreement both from the viewpoint of safeguarding the security of the United States itself and also from the viewpoint of the positive development of Soviet-American relations and the strengthening of universal peace.

This objectively gave fresh and important impetus to the completion of the practical finalization [otrabotka] of the texts of the corresponding documents--a treaty effective through 1985, a 3-year protocol on certain interim measures constituting an integral part of this treaty, and also a possible joint statement on the fundamental directions of further talks on new measures regarding the limitation and subsequent reduction of strategic arms.

It seemed that the go-ahead had been finally given for these great and important matters. However, as the facts show, this development of events is not to the liking of forces in the United States who are not pleased with the positive development of Soviet-American relations and are constantly trying to retard or even wreck altogether the accord on strategic arms limitation. They are stubbornly striving to make this question the subject of an acute domestic political struggle in the United States. The opponents of the agreement became particularly active when prospects for concluding it emerged.

These forces operate in various ways. Figures, particularly high-ranking retired military men, "specialist theorists" on strategic issues, bodies like the so-called "Committee on the Present Danger", and certain press organs playing the role of direct advocates for the Pentagon and the military-industrial complex, openly oppose any arms limitation agreements with the USSR and are urging the buildup of military efforts and the securing of military supremacy over the USSR. Manipulating the thesis of the defense of U.S. "national security interests," they are shamelessly concocting something like scenarios for waging nuclear war: waging, not preventing, war. They are calculating how many nuclear warheads and bombs would be needed for a strike against such-and-such a country. The peoples want peace and stable detente, but these men are pondering what else to invent to destroy people.

The opponents of detente in the United States have no interest in peace. Essentially they are also acting at variance with their own country's vital interests, no matter how much they might expatiate to the contrary. The historical course of development has long nullified the calculations of securing U.S. military supremacy over the USSR. U.S. leaders themselves have been compelled to officially acknowledge the military-strategic parity between the two countries.

The attempts to resurrect hopes of obtaining military supremacy over the USSR are futile. But they could lead to a new surge in the arms race and an increase in the danger of a nuclear missile conflict with all the ensuing consequences for all countries and peoples, including the United States itself. Such are the real prospects which the authors of demagogic slogans about "strengthening U.S. security" through a further unlimited buildup of nuclear missiles would like to offer the American people.

The arsenal of struggle of the opponents of detente and measures to lessen the military danger is not distinguished by originality, of course. The main means is the hackneyed myth of the "Soviet military threat." This is again being blown up to undermine the chances of concluding an agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. [paragraph continues]

American public opinion is being importunately bombarded with the idea that the Soviet Union wants to use such an agreement to obtain strategic supremacy over the United States, provide itself with the opportunity for a "disarming nuclear missile strike," and so forth.

With all its consistent peace-loving policy the Soviet Union resolutely refutes the falsity and absurdity of such fabrications and their deliberately provocative thrust. As L.I. Brezhnev has stated, "our efforts are aimed at insuring that matters do not get as far as a first or second strike, at insuring that there is no nuclear war at all. Our approach to these questions can be spelled out as follows: The Soviet Union's defense potential must be sufficient to insure that nobody dares disrupt our peaceful life. Our policy is not one aimed at supremacy in arms, but at reducing arms and easing military confrontation."

The Soviet policy is clear and easily understood. It is specifically embodied in practical actions and proposals aimed at reducing and subsequently eliminating the danger of nuclear war. It goes without saying that those who spout irresponsibly about the "Soviet threat" are pretending that the Soviet Union's numerous initiatives do not exist--including such initiatives as the proposals to conclude a world [vsemirnyy] treaty on the non-use of force, to reach agreement among the countries participating in the all-European conference on not being the first to use nuclear weapons against one another, and to halt further production of nuclear weapons. The negative reaction to these proposals by the United States and other NATO countries and the attempts to ignore or to avoid discussing them vividly demonstrate an unwillingness to really embark on the path of insuring lasting peace. This is also confirmed by the continuing growth of the U.S. military budget. Thus, for the coming fiscal year the American Government has already planned an increase of 9.4 percent against the current year for direct military expenditure alone; this expenditure will reach the truly astronomic sum of $117.8 billion.

In addition to the open opponents of an agreement on limiting strategic arms, there are also figures in the United States who do not appear to oppose an agreement directly but who in fact strive by every means to erect more and more obstacles to its conclusion. All this is done on the outwardly decent pretext of trying to "retouch" or "improve" the agreement. Ture, when the government fails, in their opinion, to heed their arguments sufficiently, these figures do cast aside their masks and start accusing it openly of being too "soft" and "compliant" toward the Soviet Union at the talks. Then even the outward difference between them and the open opponents of an agreement disappears.

They would like to "retouch" the agreement being worked out in such a way as to undermine the fundamental principle of equality and identical security for the sides and to obtain clear advantages for the United States to the detriment of the Soviet Union's security. Or, if that proves impossible, they at least want to further delay and complicate the reaching of an agreement.

The Soviet side has repeatedly stressed that there must be no illusions that the USSR will accept [poydet na] the kind of limitations which give one-sided advantages to the United States. Those American figures who try to instill in public opinion the idea that unacceptable agreement terms can be imposed on the Soviet Union are doing their people a real disservice. An agreement is needed equally by both sides, in exactly the same way as it is needed by all countries and peoples. The principle of equality and identical security as the only possible basis for an agreement is not some kind of artificial invention; it is organically connected with the very character of modern weapons and with the objectively existing balance [ravnovesiye] of strategic forces between the USSR and the United States.

Let us dwell in a little more detail on those arguments most frequently used in the United States just now by those who favor "retouching" the agreement.

It is well known that for a long period the talks failed to progress because of the position adopted by the United States on the question of long-range cruise missiles. Yet it was surely clear from the outset that long-range cruise missiles, which are strategic weapons even on the admission of the Americans themselves, must be subject to limitation together with other strategic systems such as ICBMs, submarine-launched ballistic missiles and heavy bombers. The sides eventually agreed that air-to-surface cruise missiles with ranges from 600 km to 2,500 km must be limited. It was agreed to equate heavy bombers equipped with such missiles to strategic missiles with MIRVed warheads and to count such bombers within the fixed ceiling of 1,320 such carriers for each side. As for air-to-surface cruise missiles with ranges over 2,500 km, these are subject to a complete ban.

Thanks to the Soviet side's constructive position, agreement was also reached on the question of sea-launched and surface-launched cruise missiles with ranges over 600 km. It is intended that the testing and deployment of these weapons be banned initially for a period of 3 years, to give the sides further time to find a final solution.

It seemed that everything was clear and that the task remaining was basically a technical one of formulating those decisions in appropriate treaty language.

Whereupon the advocates of "retouching" [podpravit] the agreement swung into action. It appears that the limitations on cruise missiles are not to their liking. On the one hand they declare that this is a totally unjustified "concession" in the USSR's favor, and on the other they set about attempts to effectively emasculate the agreed limitations referred to above. The argument is advanced, for example, that the United States must, they say, have the right to deploy air-to-surface cruise missiles not only on the heavy bombers subject to limitation, but on virtually any type of aircraft, including transport aircraft. In practice this would make possible the emergence of an unlimited and practically uncontrolled number of aircraft loaded with dozens [desyatki] of long-range cruise missiles and possessing the same destructive force as the nuclear warheads of ICBMs and submarine-launched ballistic missiles. One wonders what would then be the value of the limitations contained in an agreement, or indeed of such an agreement at all. It would be a mere scrap of paper rather than an understanding aimed at preventing nuclear war. The Soviet Union will not put its signature to such a scrap of paper.

These figures would also like to remove from the limitations sea-launched and surface-launched [morskogo i nazemnogo bazirovaniya] cruise missiles. This is in fact a blatant attempt to insure right now that after the 3-year term of the protocol ends there is freedom of action to develop such missiles and increase their agreed range above 600 km, and ultimately to retain the possibility of deploying them outside the United States--that is, as close as possible to the USSR's borders. Comment, as they say, is superfluous. It is surely quite obvious that this is yet another attempt to emasculate the limitations already agreed on and to wreck the agreement as a whole.

It is necessary to lay particular stress on the dangerous nature of attempts to leave loopholes so that cruise missiles can be deployed on the territory of other countries--the United States' NATO allies first and foremost. This question is part of the overall problem of insuring that the agreement worked out completely excludes the possibility of strategic arms being handed over to third countries, or of the agreement's being circumvented through the agency of third countries. [paragraph continues]

The sides must adopt unequivocal commitments on this score. If this does not happen, the viability of the agreement will likewise be reduced to nothing. It must be clear to those who are now trying to "retouch" the solution to the question of cruise missiles by these means what a heavy responsibility they are assuming both with respect to the agreement and from the viewpoint of the interests of the United States itself since the Soviet Union will naturally not remain passive if anyone tries by this means to upset the established balance [balans] of strength to the detriment of its security.

Another question constantly exaggerated by certain circles in the United States in connection with the new agreement is the question of monitoring its observance. It is asserted in advance that the agreement envisages an unreliable system of monitoring and that there is no guarantee, so it is aid, that the Soviet Union will not violate the agreement. In practice an attempt is being made to cast doubt on USSR policy and to fan once again the worn-out myth of some kind of evil intentions on the part of the Soviet Union. In particular, rumors are being spread to the effect that the Soviet Union is developing facilities for destroying American surveillance satellites.

All these are ill-intentioned fantasies. When concluding agreements, the Soviet Union strictly and unswervingly observes its commitments. Incidentally even the American leaders have themselves repeatedly declared that there have been no violations by the Soviet side of its commitments under the previously concluded treaty on the limitation of ABM systems and the interim agreement on strategic arms limitation.

The present arguments about the supposed unreliability of monitoring are aimed at casting doubt on the system adopted by the sides for monitoring by means of each side's national technical facilities--a system which has reliably proved its worth. The implementation of existing accords in the strategic arms limitation sphere has proved conclusively that these monitoring facilities fully serve their purpose. This is entirely applicable to the new agreement as well.

While noting the adequacy of the national technical monitoring facilities, the Soviet Union at the same time, for the sake of finding mutually acceptable solutions, expressed its readiness in principle to concede that if any type of strategic missile is tested just once with a MIRV, then all the missiles of this type would be included in the number of MIRVed delivery vehicles fixed under the agreement. This measure is aimed at further enhancing the effectiveness of the treaty from the monitoring viewpoint.

Finally it is well known that the machinery of a standing consultative commission within whose framework certain practical issues which may arise between the sides in the process of implementing the agreements concluded are resolved to mutual satisfaction has now been created and once again is operating reliably. Thus the fantasies about the "unreliability" of monitoring are designed for uninformed people and--and this is the main thing--are deliberately aimed at sowing doubts about the agreement as a whole.

It is necessary to dwell separately on the question of new types of strategic armaments and the modernization of existing systems. The opponents of an agreement have raised an outcry about these issues, attempting to make out that the American side is here putting forward far-reaching "radical" proposals while the Soviet Union is not prepared to make such a decision. There is just one aim--to distort and defame the Soviet position. Just what is the real state of affairs? Let us first note that this very thesis is not new; the American side put forward similar unacceptable proposals during the talks in Moscow in March of 1977. [paragraph continues]

And at that same time a principled assessment was made of these proposals and it was showed conclusively that they are aimed at revising the Vladivostok accord and at undermining the principle of equality and identical security.

At the same time the really constructive proposals put forward during the talks by the Soviet Union with a view to the reciprocal renunciation of the creation and deployment of new types of strategic weapons are well known. Considering the discussions which had taken place and taking into account the American position, the USSR later proposed that an undertaking to ban new types of MIRVed ICBMs and MIRVed SLBMs be adopted for the duration of a 3-year protocol. Such a ban would be fully in accord with the aims of the agreement since it is precisely these types of missiles which may exert a fundamental destabilizing influence on the existing strategic situation. At the same time, in affecting both sides to an identical extent, such an undertaking is totally in accord with the principle of equality and identical security.

However, the American side is proposing that absolutely all new types of land-based ICBMs, both MIRVed and unMIRVed, be banned for the duration of the protocol. And this proposal is also represented as going much further than the Soviet position. However, as in a number of other instances, it is designed for naive and uninformed people. What is the result?

While proposing that all new types of ICBM's be banned, those who are submitting this proposal are at the same time failing altogether to touch on the other types of strategic armaments: SLBMs, heavy bombers, cruise missiles. This means that it would be possible to create more and more new, improved and more powerful types of such systems if only land-based ICBMs were restricted. And if it is considered that for various reasons the composition of the two sides' strategic forces is by no means similar, it becomes perfectly clear that this proposal is directly aimed against the principle of equality and identical security and at obtaining one-sided advantages at the Soviet Union's expense. It is precisely this which is the essence of the United States' so-called radical approach!

The U.S. position on the issue of modernizing existing strategic armaments is based on the same aims. Once again some people would like to "retouch" the previously agreed clauses of the treaty in such a way as to limit arbitrarily certain Soviet weapons systems while leaving the United States with complete freedom regarding a whole series of components of strategic forces. The adoption of these proposals would mean in practice that the agreement would not only fail to limit the qualitative race in strategic armaments but, on the contrary, would impart great new impetus to it.

The one-sidedness of the American position is also confirmed by the United States' practical actions. Without even mentioning earlier instances which testify indisputably that it is precisely the American side which at every stage has been the initiator of the development of the strategic arms race by introducing more and more new systems of such weapons, it is sufficient to turn to the most recent facts. In particular, it is well known that the United States started to deploy MIRVed missiles back in the period of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks when the first agreements were being elaborated and adopted, and recently the new, considerably more powerful MK-12A nuclear warhead has been created for the Minuteman missile and measures have been taken to further increase the accuracy of these missiles; the Trident missile complex for new submarines is being created; the MX intercontirental missile, which is being proposed for use in particular on mobile launchers, is under development; and long-rang cruise missiles are being prepared for series production.

Along with the above, new, further improved weapons systems are at the research and development stage. It is no accident that in the next fiscal year the U.S. administration intends to appropriate the tremendous sum of $11.1 billion for these purposes (10.1 billion will be spent on this during the current year) and a considerable part of these funds will be spent precisely on the creation of strategic armaments.

The thesis of the supposed reluctance of the USSR--unlike the United States--to make significant reductions in strategic offensive armaments still figures among the fantasies of the opponents of an agreement. The Soviet side has already repeatedly set forth its position on this. The problem of the balance of the sides' interests and the practical implementation in the agreement of the principle of equality and identical security are perhaps concentrated in this issue more than in any other. The Soviet proposals are based on the necessity of unfailing consideration of every factor in the strategic situation as it now prevails and as it will be in the future--during the period of validity of the new agreement. It is a matter of factors such as, in particular, the geographical situation of the sides, the United States' possession of forward-based nuclear devices (on the territories of other countries in immediate proximity to the USSR) and the fact that certain of its allies possess their own strategic weapons. All these are very real factors and they must be taken into account. There can be no other approach. It is only in this event that substantial reductions in level would not destabilize the strategic situation and would not result in one side obtaining advantages at the expense of the interests of the other side's security.

The Soviet Union by no means feels that the new agreement will be the final stage in the sides' efforts aimed at restraining the nuclear arms race. The sides have already reached an understanding that talks on further measures in the sphere of strategic arms limitation will begin immediately after the conclusion of the agreement currently under preparation. Moreover, there is agreement in principle regarding the possibility of a certain reduction in the originally agreed levels during the period in which the agreement currently being elaborated is effective.

The question of the Soviet aircraft known as the Backfire in the West--a question artificially created and associated with the agreement, has been an irritant for a long time. This question is a distinct manifestation of the blatantly obstructionist tactics of the overt and covert opponents of the agreement and of their desire to deliberately place obstacles in the way of its conclusion.

This question is sufficiently well known. This aircraft is a medium [srednly] bomber and as such bears no relation to the theme of the talks since it does not fall into the category of strategic weapons. Nevertheless, consistently displaying a constructive approach, the Soviet side has seen fit to provide all the necessary explanations regarding this aircraft. The American specialists can picture perfectly well the true state of affairs. Nevertheless, the propaganda ballyhoo over this aircraft continues, and it continues with the sole aim of making this question yet another stumbling block at the talks. Despite the obvious facts, fabrications are being vigorously circulated that this aircraft could be a danger to the United States if it were refueled in the air or if it were used in other theoretical ways. But if you follow that tack, essentially any combat aircraft should be liable to restriction in accordance with the agreement being elaborated. At any rate, the restriction would cover all U.S. aircraft-carrier aircraft and tactical aircraft stationed at so-called forward bases, in Europe, for example, from which they can reach the territory of the USSR without refuelling in the air.

To pursue this point, one can recall well-known instances when American fighter-bombers making transatlantic flights from the United States to Western Europe have refuelled in midair. So if anyone has real grounds for raising questions of this kind it is the Soviet side. However, to raise all these questions now would be not to follow a path for the speediest achievement of the agreement but, on the contrary, to bring about a situation in which there is no agreement at all.

It looks as if this is precisely what is motivating those who are continuing to make a fuss about the Backfire aircraft. But it is high time they realized that nobody can impose unacceptable conditions on the Soviet side, whether on the Backfire question or on any other question.

Equally futile are the attempts to intimidate the Soviet Union by saying that if the corresponding provisions of the agreement are not "retouched" in favor of the United States, the U.S. Senate will not give the requisite consent to its ratification.

Those who resort to a maneuver of this kind are essentially trying to challenge not the Soviet Union, but their own country and their own people, whose interest in putting an end to the strategic arms race is objectively equal to and certainly not less than that of the Soviet people.

Therefore, it is senseless to threaten the Soviet side with a refusal to ratify the agreement. We could also pose the question in exactly the same way.

Those who are artificially slowing down the preparation of an agreement by returning again and again to questions concerning strategic arms levels, modernization, the Backfire aircraft and so forth should not forget or pretend to have forgotten the presence of, for example, such a really serious problem as the abovementioned American forward-based nuclear devices and U.S. aircraft-carrier aircraft which, by virtue of their location, are capable of reaching Soviet territory. The Soviet Union has certainly not forgotten about this since it has a most direct bearing on its security. Indeed, we are talking about many hundreds of nuclear weapon carriers aimed at targets on USSR territory. It is understandable, therefore, that the Soviet side should resolutely advocate that this question be solved in accordance with the principle of equality and identical security.

Nor must it be forgotten that the United States is creating more and more means of mass destruction, including the neutron weapon. The Soviet Union has submitted proposals on the general prohibition of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction and also on the mutual renunciation of the production of neutron weapons specifically. We will resolutely strive for the implementation of these proposals. Really lasting peace and international security, which are the paramount desire of all the peoples, are insured not by talk and declarations, but by concrete practical steps on halting the arms race and effecting disarmament. It is the duty of all governments to do all they can in this direction.

All these questions are of exceptional importance. And the Soviet Union could also link them to the achievement of an agreement on strategic arms limitation. But would this improve the chances of concluding an agreement? The answer is self-evident. When thinking about this specific agreement is is necessary to distinguish clearly the real from the unreal and to be guided by commonsense.

Finally, it should be borne in mind that the solution of the problem of strategic arms limitation is not a once-only measure but a continuing and continuous process. The completion of its present stage, the conclusion of the agreement currently being elaborated, by no means signifies the end of the talks. As has already been mentioned, the next stage of the talks, with the purpose of formulating and adopting more far-reaching measures on limiting and reducing strategic arms, should begin immediately after the present agreement, before it expires.

It is useful to mention all this again in connection with the situation which is taking shape in the United States at this time concerning the question of the conclusion of the new agreement. The American and world public must be clearly aware that those who are trying to wreck or delay the conclusion of the agreement are acting directly against the interests of strengthening peace and security and are setting the scene for a new spiral in the race for the most dangerous means of warfare which can only have one outcome--a sharp increase in the danger of a nuclear missile catastrophe. Disregard for these trends or, worse still, concessions to pressure from the opponents of detente and peace would only inflame their appetites.

The peoples want to believe that statesmanship [gosudarstvennaya mudrost] will prevail and that the leaders responsible for the shaping and implementation of policy will demonstrate in practice, through concrete measures, their concern for the prospects of peace and the fate of present and future generations. The speediest conclusion of the new agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation would be of great significance in this respect. The Soviet Union has done and is doing everything necessary to this end and it hopes that the United States will also act in this direction.

"We are abundantly ready to bring these talks to a successful conclusion," L.I. Brezhnev stated in reply to a PRAVDA correspondent's questions on the eve of 1978. "In our view, the possibilities are there. I would even say that the possibilities are good. Judging by certain statements, the American side is also expressing a certain optimism. I would like it to be reinforced by practical deeds."

HUNGARIAN MBFR DELEGATE: CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH IMPERATIVE

LD101430Y Moscow TASS in English 1403 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

["Constructive Approach Is Imperative"--TASS headline]

[Text] Vienna, February 10, TASS--The latest, 159th plenary session of the parties to the talks on a mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe was held in the Hofburg here. Fodor, the head of the delegation of the Hungarian People's Republic, took the floor.

A spokesman of the Hungarian delegation told correspondents that Fodor in his speech had pointed to the favorable possibility of drafting joint accords in 1977. They could have furnished a foundation for the subsequent conclusion of a specific agreement. The NATO countries, however, rejected all compromise proposals of the Warsaw Treaty countries, made in 1976 and 1977, and thus factually retarded progress at the talks.

More, the NATO plans for the manufacture and deployment of new types of weapons of mass annihilation in the region of the future reduction seriously hamper military detente.

The head of the delegation of the Hungarian People's Republic next dwelt on the stand of the Western side on the establishment of so-called collective ceilings for the strength of ground forces. This question is regarded by the NATO countries as one of the key issues at the talks. In their opinion, it is an indispensable condition for reaching an agreement. Such a position, however, aims at enabling some NATO countries even to increase their armed forces over their current level. The impression is being created that, evidently, some one just would like to increase his armed forces in central Europe instead of discussing their reduction, Fodor pointed out. It is but natural that the socialist countries cannot accept such proposals.

In view of such a position of the West, local observers draw attention to the recent activisation of the American military in Europe. It will be recalled that the Pentagon announced, specifically, new plans to increase the strength of the U.S. Armed Forces in Western Europe including the region involved in the Vienna talks.

MOSCOW PROPOSES POST-BELGRADE MEETINGS ON SECURITY, DISARMAMENT

LD110036Y Moscow in French to Europe 1800 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The Belgrade meeting of representatives of countries that attended the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe is nearing its end. Our commentator, Dmitriy Kruglov, writes:

The main efforts of the participants in the Belgrade meeting are now devoted to drafting a final document. What will it contain? The main orientation of the multilateral process begun at Helsinki has been and remains strengthening security and expanding cooperation in Europe. To keep Europe from sliding toward a nuclear catastrophe as if pushed by the force of inertia [as heard] and according to the mad logic of the growth of military arsenals--this is the main task of the moment.

It is in light of this task that the proposals put forward at the Belgrade meeting must be appreciated and the contents of its final document defined. An action program aimed at establishing military detente in Europe was introduced by the USSR at the Belgrade meeting.

It contains important proposals, inviting the participants of the European conference to conclude a treaty by which they would commit themselves not to be the first to use nuclear arms against each other not to expand the European military-political groups which face each other, and not to exceed 50,000 to 60,000 men in exercises. This program also envisages that the measures promoting military confidence adopted in Helsinki should spread to embrace the countries of the southern part of the Mediterranean if, of course these countries so desired. Other socialist countries, the neutral states and the nonalined have also put forward important initiatives at the Belgrade meeting.

During the entire meeting, the representatives of some Western countries have resorted to various pretexts to prevent a serious examination of important questions concerning the limitation of the arms race, disarmament and the adoption of efficacious measures to strengthen European security. Some such as U.S. representative Arthur Goldberg, have bluntly stated that the proposals of the socialist countries in the field of disarmament should not be debated at the Belgrade meeting.

Instead of discussing questions of major importance on which a strengthening of peace and security in Europe and the prevention of a nuclear war depend they have recommended, for example, that the meeting deal with the issue of binoculars for observers at military exercises and other minor details. The solution of which will not reduce the concentration of troops or help disarmament in Europe.

Can one seriously believe that the solution of these questions--and especially their insertion in the final document--would help avert the threat of war involving the use of thermonuclear or neutron weapons? The final document cannot be serious unless it reflects a serious attitude toward the questions of essential importance to the strengthening of security and the prevention of a nuclear war in Europe. Nor can it be regarded as valid if it does not reflect the (?essence) of the problem of security and peace in Europe.

Should the participants not succeed in expressing concrete recommendations in the final document regarding effective new steps in the field of strengthening security, disarmament and the limitation of the arms race, they ought to agree that these questions, and also the confidence building measures of interest to certain countries, should be examined at special meetings of all states that attended the conference. An appropriate decision should be written into the final document.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD1216COY Moscow International Service in Russian 0730 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Weekly "International Observers Roundtable" introduced by Aleksandr Kaverznev, political observer of Central Television and All-Union Radio; with Albert Grigoryants, foreign affairs editor of IZVESTIYA; and Vikentiy Matveyev, political observer of IZVESTIYA]

[Text] [Kaverznev] Hello, Comrades. Let me enumerate the themes which we intend to discuss in this talk. A most acute situation of concern to the world continues in the African Continent. The number of states involved in the armed conflict between Ethiopia and Somalia is increasing. Last week it emerged that not only is the aggressor, that is, Somalia, being given arms assistance by the United States and other NATO members, but Egyptian President as-Sadat admitted that he too has sent arms to the Somalis.

Some observers note the emergence of a very dangerous direct link between the two hotbeds of conflict in the Near East and in the Horn of Africa. Should they converge, these two hotbeds could turn into a conflagration. But even if that does not happen, the difficulties in the path of a settlement of the already complex problems of each of the aforementioned areas will increase.

The world is also anxiously watching the acute situation in Southeast Asia. I refer to the armed conflict which Cambodia has imposed on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Belgrade Conference

But before going on to these pressing issues, we need to assess the general disposition of forces in the world. Let us look at how affairs are taking shape in the socialist countries, which are now half way to the fulfillment of their present 5-year plans and for which 1978 will be a decisive year in this respect. And let us give some thought to the West's pressing economic problems. Let us not forget that above all socioeconomic processes determine the course of development, whose main tendency, despite all the aforementioned conflicts, is toward detente.

[Matveyev] The train of detente in Europe is advancing along the main route laid down for it, although this train is not escaping attempts to divert it not simply along a secondary track but also along a track leading to a dead end.

Such attempts have been made, and are still being made, by certain Western delegations at the meeting of representatives of the countries which participated in the all-European conference. Nothing will come of these attempts. This has been firmly stated both by our delegation and the delegations of other socialist countries in Belgrade. The present Belgrade discussions on the contents of the meeting's final document and the absence, as yet, of a coordinated approach to the nature of such a document cannot influence the main point; the basis and foundation enshrined in the Helsinki final act, which provides precisely the main direction in which European interstate relations will develop in accordance with the interests of peace and businesslike, equal cooperation. However the Belgrade conference ends, this process of activating international life in Europe will proceed further.

European Socialist Economies

[Kaverznev] Let us try to outline the economic conditions in the European socialist states. Last year they achieved almost all of their goals. In this respect the word "almost" is unavoidable, since no one has yet managed to accomplish everything irreproachably. Either life presents unforeseen problems, or the year turns out to be unfavorable for agriculture, or else the foreign market situation deteriorates.

Considering this, the Hungarian statistical report for the past year is cause for astonishment. Literally all the planned targets were surpassed. Rates of development were accelerated; the structure of the economy was improved, and its efficiency has increased. Hungary has long experienced an acute manpower shortage, but over the year it was not only able to increase industrial output by 7 percent but also to transfer 7,000 people from industry to services, the health system and education.

You will agree that this is a fine result of scientific and technical progress. An annual increase of 2 to 3 percent in agricultural production is usually considered a great success. In Hungary the increase was 9 percent. It is interesting that the comparison was made with 1975, the most successful year of the current 5-year plan period. If the comparison were to be made with 1976, when the weather was bad, the figure for the increase would be even higher.

Czechoslovak, German, Bulgarian and Romanian comrades are satisfied with the state of their economies. They achieved the most important thing: They were able to raise the real incomes of the working people by between 4 and 6 percent. This is an obvious success. In particular sectors of the economy there were, of course, shortcomings, which were discussed in a principled communist way at the end of the year at party plenums and at parliamentary sessions, and enterprises have been criticized for uneven fulfillment of their plans.

In Czechoslovakia complaints were made against the construction industry and transport, which have not been fully coping with their mounting loads.

In Romania, for the past 10 years, each year 250,000 new jobs have been created in industry, and the country's average annual growth over this period has been 12 percent. For this country it is an historic achivement. It is therefore even more important that the plans to increase agricultural production are strictly followed in order to supply the new industrial centers. However, not all cooperatives managed to do this last year.

In the GDR 30 percent of industrial products are now turned out with the quality sign. Possibly this figure will surprise some of our listeners and they will be envious of it, but German comrades want over half of all output to be marked by this sign during the current year. This is a very exacting attitude toward scientific and technical progress and demands a constant critical review of all achievements in this field.

[Grigoryants] Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, if we are speaking about the problems of the countries of our community, the most complex problems now have to be solved by Poland. We know that this is of interest to many listeners. Probably you in radio and television have also been getting letters asking for an explanation of the reasons for and the nature of the so-called economic maneuver now being implemented in the Polish People's Republic.

[Kaverznev] Yes, you are right, Albert Aramovich. We have also been getting many letters on this theme. Generally this is how the situation has developed.

The largest generation in Poland's history, which was born after the war, has been reaching adulthood during the seventies. The need has arisen to create 3.5 million new jobs in just a few years. This does not even consider that it is necessary to train a large number of people and provide them with a profession. The socialist state has solved this very complex task on a large scale by creating not temporary but technically complete and long-term jobs.

Naturally, old industrial enterprises have also had to be updated, and a general modernization of Polish industry has commenced. Half of the country's stock of machine-tools and machinery is now less than 5 years old. However, all this has required truly gigantic capital investments. Their final total is almost Z2 billion--a difficult figure to grasp. With work on such a scope the construction and production cycles have been extended. The money has been invested, but we will have to wait a few years for results.

Meanwhile the people, including the millions of new workers, are receiving wages. The purchasing power of the Polish population has increased by 50 percent over the last 7 years. It was difficult for the old sections of the light industry to cope with such an increase in consumption, but again it was necessary to wait for new enterprises to enter into service. The situation was complicated by the fact that Poland has 4 continuous years of droughts followed by downpours, and one natural calamity followed another. A difficult situation in animal feed resulted and there was a reduction in the production of livestock produce. I must say that such a 4-year spell of bad weather is extremely rare.

But what is characteristic and important is that, in the face of these difficulties of growth, a socialist state was not powerless. Not a single important problem has remained unresolved. An analysis made by communists with the active participation of all the people showed that there is no need to revise the goals mapped out by the last Polish United Workers Party Congress. The 5-year plan for socioeconomic development will be fulfilled, but there was a need for this economic maneuver. Its essence is to bring capital investments down to the necessary economic level, to speed up the building already begun and to put the emphasis where the smallest investments can quickly produce the maximum effects.

This year's task is to raise the population's incomes by 6 or 7 percent and increase the supplies of consumer goods by 12 percent. The state will give extensive aid to agriculture and will pay particular attention to housing construction. About 4.5 million apartments have been built in Poland since the war, but there is no reduction in demand, for the same reason that I mentioned at the beginning. As a result of the postwar population explosion the population group between 20 and 29 years of age continues to grow--that is, the group in which there is an increasing number of marriages, new families are formed and children are born.

Let us repeat, I have outlined the situation in general terms, but even from this it is apparent that the socialist state has not avoided difficulties and has not neglected its concern for the individual. It operates in his interests and unfailingly finds an effective solution to problems.

Western Economic Crisis

[Grigoryants] Well, the Western countries are attempting to solve their insoluble economic problems on other foundations.

The British FINANCIAL TIMES says that the past year has been a period of falling economic hopes for the majority of European countries and that there is cause for alarm. The production growth rates in Western Europe are meager: less than 2.5 percent. In the United States they are even lower: 8.5 percent. This is essentially marking time. It is officially admitted that in the leading capitalist countries there are 15 million unemployed. The currency fever is unceasing. At the moment there is an attack on the French franc--its rate is continually falling.

It is quite logical that the worse things are, the more egoistically the Western countries behave. Each is trying to get out of the crisis at the expense of its partners' interests. Attempts to come to some agreement at the highest level are not very productive. It has been announced that there will be another meeting of the leaders of the seven biggest capitalist countries on economic questions this summer in the FRG. This was discussed during FRG Chancellor Schmidt's visit to Paris. But observers are already sounding the alarm because of the discords which divide the Western countries and which hamper any agreement.

The three dominant Western powers in industry and finance--the United States, the FRG and Japan--are, as one Western paper put it, in a state of economic confusion. This delicate expression means first that the three aforementioned countries are not able to overcome the long drawn-out economic slump, and second that they are effectively in a state of trade war with each other.

A strange picture has emerged: There are three boxers in the ring at the same time. Although they are in different weight categories, they fight with the same ferocity.

Last week a session of the EEC Council of Ministers decided to take energetic steps against Japanese economic expansion in Western Europe. The point is that the Japanese monopolies are squeezing out their competitors in the Common Market countries. The trade confrontation is also intensifying between the United States and its partners. Last year the Americans imported goods and raw materials worth $30 billion more than their exports. Suffice it to say that one automobile in five sold in the United States is of foreign make.

The monopolies of Japan and the FRG are dealing palpable blows to the United States. In reply the United States is striving to put up protectionist barriers against goods from the FRG, Japan and other countries. The companies are demanding that, with the aid of trade barriers, Washington hamper imports of steel, television sets, cement, motorcycles and so forth. Limitations are already being introduced. Retaliatory measures immediately follow. A trade war flares up. It has been calculated that 40 percent of world trade is already caught up in various types of restrictions. As we can see, the economic crisis is accompanied by a serious intensification of inter-imperialist contradictions. The burden of this struggle is borne primarily by the working masses.

[Kaverznev] But apparently there are means, if not of overcoming, at least of easing the Western states' economic difficulties. But what means? One can, of course, try to cure these illnesses through bloc politics, or through extensive international cooperation without discrimination and without restrictions, which is what the Helsinki final act calls for.

[Grigoryants] The advantages and benefits of such long-term cooperation on an equal footing between states of East and West are particularly evident in the example of Soviet-Austrian relations. Last week Bruno Kreisky, the federal chancellor of Austria was in Moscow on a working visit. He held talks with Leonid Ilich Brezhev and Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin. It was stated that both government's points of view coincide or are close on many important questions. The Soviet Union and Austria are good neighbors and partners. The Soviet side stressed that the course of friendship and all-round cooperation with Austria remains our principle long-term course, and that Austria's reciprocal efforts in this direction will always meet with understanding and support.

To return to economic problems, it must be noted that, of the many capitalist countries in Europe, Austria has suffered considerably less than the others from the crisis which has exploded in the West. One explanation for this phenomenon is its extensive economic links with such reliable trade partners as the socialist states. Soviet-Austrian trade turnover is about R600 million.

Recently all the Vienna papers have been noting that the Moscow talks open up a new stage in Soviet-Austrian economic relations. They are considering joint implementation of long-term projects, industrial cooperation and cooperation in the markets of third countries. Soviet-Austrian relations are an example of the successful implementation on our continent of the final act of the European conference, the strengthening of the process of detente and the development of peaceful cooperation, including cooperation in the field of economics.

[Kaverznev] Vikentiy Aleksandrovich, now we come to the complicated problems of the Near East and the Horn of Africa.

Mideast, Horn of Africa

[Matveyev] At our roundtable we have more than once examined the situation in the Near East, and we will continue to do so. We must say first that the majority of Arab states, as before, are demonstrating their determination to continue and to increase the struggle to eliminate the consequences of the 1967 Israeli aggression. Evidence of this was the Algiers conference of a number of Arab leaders which have formed the so-called steadfastness front in the face of the divisive, separate actions of the Egyptian leadership in its search for its desired deal with Tel Aviv.

This meeting, the second meeting of these Arab leaders, following the Tripoli meeting, signifies a further strengthening of this front. In particular they now envisage the creation of a supreme joint command and other measures to coordinate the actions of the front's members. At the Algiers meeting much attention was devoted to the necessity of Iraq joining the steadfastness front insofar as its representatives were at neither the first nor the latest meeting. The Iraqi Government declares its determination to participate in the common struggle of the Arab peoples for their just cause but has certain reservations regarding its participation in the steadfastness front.

[Kaverznev] Strengthening the unit of the progressive Arab countries is one of the most important conditions for the successful struggle for a just peace settlement in the Near East and for the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression, and the recent events in this region stress the need for such unity with particular force.

[Matveyev] Both at the conference in Tripoli last December and at the meeting in Algiers very definite mention was made of the invariable and important role of our country as the true friend of the Arab peoples and as an obligatory active participant in the process of a peaceful settlement in the Near East. It is no longer a secret to many political observers that in his, initially unexpected, steps toward rapprochement with Israel, As-Sadat was to a considerable degree guided by the desire to bar the Soviet Union from participation in the business of a peaceful settlement to the Near East crisis, shortsightedly believing that such a position would gain him the desired favor of the ruling clique in Israel and also of those circles in the United States that were so nervous about the joint Soviet-U.S. statement on the Near East of 1 October last year. Calculations aimed at barring our country from the steps toward a peaceful settlement in the Near East are not only shortsighted but also fatal for those who make such calculations.

British Foreign Secretary Owen recently admitted that the West had to pay dearly for the Kissinger policy, which consisted of attempts to remove the Soviet Union from the talks on the Near East. And this is what the French L'AURORE said on 23 January: In his attacks on the Soviet Union, As-Sadat is posing as a bulwark in the struggle against communism. He wants to show the United States that Egypt can, just like Israel, serve as a gendarme.

[Grigoryants] This statement is all the more remarkable since it comes from a bourgeois paper, which clearly does not criticize the Egyptian leader for such a position but, on the contrary, encourages As-Sadat to continue to act in the same way.

[Matveyev] Well, in this respect, on his recent visit to the United States As-Sadat dotted all his i's and publicly revealed himself in the unseemly role in which the above-mentioned French paper describes him. During his visit to Washington he asked the U.S. Government to supply Egypt with U.S. arms and immediately stipulated that this request was motivated not by considerations of the struggle to eliminate the consequences of the Israeli aggression but that it had different motives. He apparently dislikes some of the African governments and regimes, and he would like to use the U.S. arms against those countries. In this connection As-Sadat spoke of the Egyptian arms supplies to Somalia and even hinted that Egyptian forces might be sent to Somalia to participate in the fighting against Ethiopia.

Obviously, the man who made these statements is disposed to overlook the fact that Israeli forces are occupying Arab lands, including Egyptian territory, for the sake of fulfilling these same police functions against the progressive and democratic states of Africa. And indeed, it emerges from press reports that while in the United States, the Egyptian leader agreed not to insist on a time scale for the Israeli withdrawal from the settlements they have set up in Sinai, although he speaks of the importance of Tel Aviv agreeing to return Sinai to Egypt.

But those settlements were set up for the purpose of keeping the Sinai Peninsula under Israel's control, even with some form of Egyptian access to the territory, which is meant to create an impression that Egypt has gained some degree of sovereignty over those lands. Surely he does not believe that he only has to shake hands with Begin and Dayan for those hawks to become doves? The Israeli military now has eight air force bases on the Sinai Peninsula and has no intention of giving them up, desiring to keep Egypt under constant threat.

In short, the latest Near East events are very instructive. They show that partial and separate agreements with Israel were and still are an erroneous path and a path fatal for the vital interests of the Arab people and states. That path merely stimulates the Israeli military's appetite and thereby exacerbates the already tense situation in the region.

[Grigoryants] I would like to ask what role U.S. diplomacy is playing in all these events. One Washington observer has written recently that the Carter administration would like to sit on several stools at the same time in the Near East, some of them quite far apart. Is that so?

[Matveyev] As we know, Washington is still giving its chief preference to Israel, its protege in the region, while simultaneously trying to prop up the Egyptian leadership's pro-Israeli game. Here the main effort is to help the author of that game out of his isolation in the Arab world. It should also be noted that the U.S. administration has gone back on its word as concerns a joint and concerted approach with our country toward a political settlement in the Near East. Such diplomacy contradicts the interests of a comprehensive and just settlement in the region and does not help efforts to convene the Geneva conference but instead hampers them.

[Grigoryants] Today everyone admits that strategically speaking, the current Egyptian leadership has miscalculated. As-Sadat plans were after all based on the premise that the United States could not reject his proposal to turn Egypt--one of the biggest Arab countries, with a population of 40 million--first into a major bridgehead for U.S. economic penetration into the Arab East and North Africa and second into the chief gendarme which would assume the role of strangler of the progressive movements in that far-flung region.

But As-Sadat clearly underestimated the strength of the bonds between Israel and the United States--strength which comes not only from the power and influence of the pro-Israeli lobby in Washington but also from U.S. imperialism's own interests, from the ambition to secure its oil supplies, markets, cheap manpower and strategic bridgeheads. It is primarily with the help of Israel that the Americans plan to reach those long-term targets--and, naturally, Washington will not break off its established partnership with Israel for Egypt's benefit, the more so since As-Sadat, after burning all his bridges and isolating himself and since he heads a politically and economically unstable country, does not constitute a partner of any degree of reliability for a long-term game.

Vietnam-Cambodia Conflict

[Kaverznev] Now the Vietnam-Cambodian conflict. Just 1 week ago, last Sunday, the Vietnamese Government put forward a number of proposals to settle its relations with Cambodia. In most countries of the world and in the United Nations these proposals were thought to be very reasonable and to show Vietnam's good will. Reaction was awaited from Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital. The reaction came last Wednesday, 8 February. It was not an official reply--as we know, the Cambodian authorities also stubbornly refused to give such replies to previous Vietnamese proposals. Instead, Radio Phnom Penh again flung its stock collection of fabrications at Vietnam and alleged that Hanoi's Sunday proposal was a trick. It follows that Kampuchea does not yet intend to stop its military actions.

And here, Vikentiy Aleksandrovich--I don't know whether you will agree with me--there is something in common between this conflict and that in the Horn of Africa. This is what I have in mind:

Like the border between Ethiopia and Somalia, the border between Vietnam and Cambodia was drawn in colonial times. At that time the point of least interest to the colonialists was which ethnic groups lived on what side of the border, and it so happened that many generations of Vietnamese have lived in what is now Cambodia, just as Somalis have lived in Ethiopian territory. And when independence was won, there was a chance of settling those issues in a neighborly and peaceful fashion. But the reactionary forces in Africa, incited by imperialism, took advantage of the situation to stir Somalia into attacking revolutionary Ethiopia. Observers are now wondering whether something like that is happening in southeast Asia. For no one can believe that it is in the Cambodian people's interests to wipe out the Vietnamese who live in its territory and to make war on the sovereign land of Vietnam. That can profit only forces desirous of whipping up tension both in Southeast Asia and the world at large.

And so the world public is watching what is happening there very carefully. It has not overlooked the fact that, according to Western press reports, Cambodia relies on Chinese support; that most of Cambodia's Army units are wholly equipped with Chinese arms; and that Peking has dispatched hundreds of military advisers there. Here's another typical trait: A report has appeared in U.S. newspapers that certain Washington officials, particularly in the Pentagon, are rubbing their hands with glee as they watch the Vietnam-Cambodia conflict.

[Matveyev] Of course, these regions are different, and each region has its own specific features. But the fact that there are external and influential forces which have a stake in stirring up troubled water, in kindling bloodshed--this is of course true both of the Horn of Africa and of the Cambodia-Vietnam conflict.

PRC-EEC Trade Agreement

[Grigoryants] Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, you have mentioned Peking, and I would like--perhaps to conclude our discussion--to recall an event last week which is undoubtedly connected with Peking's long-term plans. We started by talking about the competition struggle in the West and about how the capitalist countries are at odds over trade, finance and so forth. But what astonishing consideration and flexibility they showed Peking last week. China and the EEC initialled a trade agreement in Brussels under which Peking is generously granted most-favored-nation status.

Many observers see in this agreement not only economic significance but also political significance. One might say that by initialling this agreement with China, the countries of the Nine have paid the first installment for the Peking leaders' anti-Sovietism, for their readiness and desire to find a common language with the NATO countries.

But it is clear to everyone that the Chinese leadership is hoping for a far more generous reward in drawing closer to the nine: They are hoping for access not only to industrial technology but also to the Western countries' latest military hardware. Peking's emissaries are now criss-crossing all of Western Europe in search of suppliers of aircraft, helicopters, missiles and so forth. Those in the West who have a mind to play on Peking's anti-Sovietism and take advantage of it for their own ends are cleverly whetting Chinese appetites and ambitions.

The reactionary circles in the Western countries are clearly playing a dangerous game--dangerous for the Western states themselves, too. It is high time they realized that.

U.S. POLITICIANS SHOULD NOT IGNORE 'NUCLEAR WAR DANGER'

LD:20558Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] Shortly before his death that great man of the 20th century, Albert Einstein, agreed despite his grave condition to grant an interview to one of the many newsmen eager to see him. He must have realized this would be his last chance to address his contemporaries because he laid aside his usual jokeful manner and weighed every word as he spoke. The newsman asked the physicist to explain why it was that mankind had been able to penetrate one of the greatest secrets of nature, the secret of the atomic nucleus, and make use of its tremendous energy but at the same time was not able to protect itself from the terrible consequences of this discovery which threatened the very existence of civilization. Einstein though for a moment and then said it was simply explained. Politics was a much more complicated thing than physics.

So said the man who had discovered the theory of relativity, a theory so complicated that some physicists are still trying to understand it. If Einstein meant politics in the broad sense of the word, and not merely political intriguing, we must agree with him if only because a mistake in physics can be corrected, after some time if not immediately, and by a colleague if not by the man who made it, but a mistake in politics may be irremediable if made by a statesman invested with power and in possession of weapons that can wipe out the human race.

I was among the newsmen who accompanied the Soviet parliamentary delegation on its 10-day visit to the United States. The delegation was made up of distinguished political leaders and captained by Boris Ponomarev, head of one of the foreign relations commissions of parliament and also alternate member of the Communist Party's Political Bureau and secretary of its Central Committee. The group had talks with many prominent Americans, among them the President, the vice president, the secretary of state and the President's assistant on national security. The visit took place at a time when complications have developed in Soviet-American relations through no fault of the USSR. SALT II has yet to be signed and the situation in the Middle East has become more complex, largely because the administration in Washington has turned its back on the understanding reached on 1 October last year when Foreign Minister Gromyko and State Secretary Vance signed a joint declaration.

There is little need to elaborate on the importance of good relations between the two most powerful nations. The top-level talks the Soviet delegation had in Washington were clearly of major significance. Their purpose was to carry forward the work of easing world tension, work in which the Soviet people and the Americans are interested in like degree just as all other nations are. (?Yet at various times) the highly influential Senator Jackson from the State of Washington called for economic sanctions against the Soviet Union because of what is termed the Shcharanskiy case. The American media have made much of this so-called case. I won't go into it at the moment. I've had occasion to speak of it in previous talks. I only want to call your attention to the disproportion between the pretext chosen for an anti-Soviet campaign and the problem of Soviet-American relations, relations on which the very future of civilization hinges.

Much can be said about human rights in the Soviet Union and in America, and I don't think a comparison would be in America's favor, but what is far more important is that some influential American politicians and media executives fail to grasp the political problems of the present-day world. It's indeed easier to make discoveries in science and technology than to comprehend what a terrible thing may happen to civilization if these discoveries are used for purposes of destruction.

When discoveries in science bring about radical changes in the life of humanity there should be a radical change in the political thinking of people at the helm of state. It was an understanding of this great truth that prompted the Soviet Union to make the proposals it has made in recent years to remove the danger of a global nuclear war. If some politicians in Washington ignore this danger, it's indeed cause for concern.

SHCHARANSKIY CASE 'PROVOCATIVE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN'

LD101418Y Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

["Once Again Concerning an Anti-Soviet Campaign"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 10, TASS--TASS correspondent Viktor Vladimirov writes:

Continuing in the United States under the shingle of "protection of human rights" is a provocative political campaign concerning the so-called "Shcharanskiy case". Shcharanskiy was arrested in the USSR for concrete actions covered by Soviet criminal legislation.

In the Soviet press and in TASS reports the attention of the American side was repeatedly drawn to the following: The instigators of the hue and cry over the "Shcharanskiy case" deliberately keep silent about facts exposing the purely anti-Soviet directedness of the present campaign and hope to get away with this because few people in the United States know the real state of affairs and the true moral make-up of Shcharanskiy. Now it has turned out that in America people do not know or again prefer to ignore the true position of Nataliya Shtiglitz, who is now widely publicized in the United States as "Shcharanskiy's wife, a courageous defender of human rights."

Nataliya Shtiglitz's parents, who live in the Soviet Union, are indignant at the falsification and are seriously worried about their daughter's fate. For this reason they sent letters to Senators Moynihan and Javits, who play the main role in the propaganda outcry concerning the "Shcharanskiy case." In their letters Nataliya's parents expressed firm conviction that ill-intended circles in the United States and Israel are trying to use their daughter as an instrument in their political struggle against the Soviet Union, of which her parents are citizens. In their letters to the senators Nataliya's father and mother voiced apprehension that the cynical exploitation of their daughter by some politicians in the United States may lead her to a tragic outcome, when she realizes into what the Zionists are dragging her for the sake of their selfish aims.

Nataliya's parents stated that their daughter is not the wife of Shcharanskiy and that to ascribe this role to her means to spread deliberate lies. They wrote to the U.S. senators about their amazement when in broadcasts of foreign radio stations their daughter was suddenly mentioned as the wife of "a prominent Soviet human rights activist". The parents contend that their daughter had never told them anything of the sort. She gave no clear answer also to the worried letters that they sent to Israel and the United States. Their doubts are officially confirmed by the Soviet civil registry which informed them that their daughter had never married in the USSR. Friends of Nataliya's parents responded to their request and found out that Nataliya had never married in a synagogue either. According to the elder Shtiglitzes, Nataliya had never discussed the question of marriage with them in general or her intention to become the wife of Shcharanskiy in particular.

As to Shcharanskiy himself, the elder Shtiglitzes write to the U.S. senators, who are the main campaigners for him, that they regard Shcharanskiy "as an embodiment of deceit and lewdness, a cynic who knows no such moral values as conscience, family, religious traditions and other worthy qualities". According to them, "his so-called struggle for human rights is only a form which he uses to camouflage his real essence of an adventurer ready to gamble on the life of any person just to get his dividends".

Addressing the Senators Moynihan and Javits on a parent-to-parent basis, Nataliya's parents asked them not to draw Nataliya into political falsifications and to protect here from the lies and deceit of propaganda hacks and intriguers who in the interests of the man they need are prepared to cripple the destinies of many people. At the same time they asked the senators to make public their letter in the U.S. Congress, some of whose members preach human morality while not wishing to notice how it is violated in their very presence by way of falsification and distortion of facts.

Fearing that the American side may ignore their requests, as it had done repeatedly in other situations unfavourable for it, the parents of Nataliya Shitiglitz presented a copy of their letters to the TASS correspondent and asked him to make their comtents known to the public. They also told him that a similar letter was sent by them to President Carter of the United States.

Such are the facts, and the hushing up and ignoring of these facts by the American press cannot but give rise to justified doubts about the ability of some high-placed Americans to display a constructive approach to questions of Soviet-American relations.

VIETNAMESE UN ENVOY DEPARTS U.S. AFTER SPY CHARGES

LD111140Y Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 11, TASS--Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the United Nations Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, who [was] falsely accused of being involved in "intelligence activity" left here for home.

In a statement for the press, Dinh Ba Thi stressed that he is leaving the United States on the instruction of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam since the U.S. authorities grossly interfered with his normal work as the plenipotentiary representative of Vietnam at the United Nations.

The ambassador described the United States' illegal steps as "an unprecedented and extremely serious action aimed at disrupting the normal activity of representations of member-countries of the United Nations and this international organization as a whole. [no close quote] He said this action will have a negative effect on the normalizing of relations between Vietnam and the United States.

The representative of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam expressed cordial gratitude to socialist and other countries, to all peace forces and progressive public of the United States for their firm support of the just cause of the Vietnamese people.

New York Demonstration

LD121249Y Moscow TASS in English 1144 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 12, TASS--A mass demonstration was held in the centre of New York in protest against false accusation of "espionage" advanced by the U.S. administration against the permanent representative of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi. Representatives of 26 progressive and democratic public organisations of the United States, of the national liberation movements of Africa and Latin America took part. The demonstration reflected the indignation of the U.S. public with gross attacks of the U.S. Government on the Vietnamese people that embodied over many years the heroic struggle of peoples for national liberation from imperialist oppression.

INTENSIFICATION OF ARMS RACE 'EVOKES ALARM' IN U.S.

LD112345Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The U.S. Congress is discussing the federal budget for 1979. Special zeal is being shown by Defense Secretary Harold Brown. His is not an easy task--to prove, in spite of previous promises by the administration, the need for a sharp increase in military expenditures. Our Washington correspondent, Yuriy Soltan, reports:

The arguments put forward by Harold Brown and high-ranking military members of the Pentagon are distinguished by neither novelty nor originiality: The Russians are achieving military supremacy over the United States; the Soviet military threat to NATO countries and the United States is growing; we have no other choice but to keep on arming ourselves--such is the leitmotif of all the Pentagon's explanations to Congress. The local press is putting forward similar, if one can call them that, arguments providing fodder for the military monopolies, frightening Americans with a "Soviet military threat," and relying on top secret sources of information--or, more simply speaking, publishing false reports received from the CIA and the Pentagon.

But in actual fact it is a matter of how to satisfy more fully the voracious appetites of the military corporations that feed on arms production. Out of the new budget more than $90 billion will be expended on military corporations.

A bitter struggle between the military monopolies has now begun to obtain this. This is especially so when one considers that the Pentagon is planning not simply a growth in the armed forces and the modernization of existing armaments but the creation of new and extremely expensive systems of nuclear weaponry and the (Aegis) systems.

It is planned to double expenditure on the development of space weaponry, although, as is known according to a special treaty, the utilization of space for military purposes is categorically forbidden. A program is being worked out for the creation of new strategic so-called mobile missiles. The production of cruise missiles is beginning and the replacement of the now active B-29 bombers is planned. The preparation of the production of the neutron weapon and other new types of arms is in progress. Moreover, the administration is now already declaring that the military expenditure of the United States will increase annually by not less than 3 percent in constant [tverdyy] dollars, that is, disregarding inflation. This is an alarming and dangerous tendency. The intensification of the arms race not only increases U.S. economic difficulties but most seriously hinders the process of the relaxation of international tension and leads to the creation of an atmosphere of suspicion and mistrust in the international arena. Such a policy is not in accord with either the declaration of the Washington administration about a desire for disarmament or the interests of the American people. In the United States it evokes growing alarm and discontent.

'WIDE DISCONTENT WITH GAP' BETWEEN WASHINGTON'S WORDS, DEEDS

LD110742Y Moscow TASS in English 0733 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 11, TASS--TASS economic commentator Ivan Ablamov writes:

Spiralling the arms race, the United States plans to bring the military spending to 128 billion dollars in the 1978-1979 financial year and to 182 billion dollars by 1983. In view of this a question arises: What is the worth of the promises to cut military spending that the leaders of the present U.S. administration made before the elections? Wasn't this merely a ruse to get votes?

Such questions are now asked in the United States, too. Member of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress Parren Mitchell said concerning the military budget he feels to be duped. He said he thought everybody had believed that they were supporting the presidential candidate who intended to cut military spending. Many other Americans could subscribe to Mitchell's pronouncement.

There are many other evidences of widespread discontent in the United States with the gap between Washington's words and deeds. This discontent has assumed the nature of a confidence crisis. This is shown by the data of the latest public opinion polls according to which the majority of Americans have a negative view of various aspects of the government's activity. The administration's inability to solve acute social and economic problems: growth of inflation, unemployment, etc., come under the particularly sharp criticism.

It is no secret that the aggravation of the social and economic problems in the United States is connected, above all, with the spiralling of military appropriations. The squandering of huge funds on non-productive military purposes steps up inflation in the country.

American economists estimated that two million new jobs could be created every year through switching military allocations to the use for peaceful purposes.

Channelling vast funds for military needs, Washington consciously carries the matters to further aggravation of the situation in economics. This policy suits the interests of the military-industrial complex which profits greatly from stockpiling armaments.

INCREASED U.S. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN INDIAN OCEAN REPORTED

LD111357Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1000 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] In line with the agreement reached in Bern, the Soviet Union and the United States have resumed their meetings to discuss ways of reducing military activity in the Indian Ocean. Here is a commentary by our observer, Andrey Shatikov:

The main goal of the talks is to curb the arms race in this important, vast region and eliminate the seats of military tension there. The attainment of this goal is objectively in the interests of both the coastal states seeking to insure conditions of peace for their development and the Soviet Union and the other states using the Indian Ocean as an important transport route.

At the three previous rounds the Soviet and American sides discussed various approaches to a solution and searched for concrete steps toward this end. After the sides had exchanged proposals on a possible agreement to reduce their military activity in the region the talks entered the practical stage.

The press has reported that different concrete concepts have emerged during the talks to solve the problem of demilitarizing the Indian Ocean. It is known that the Soviet Union has been coming out for a radical solution of the issues of disarmament, regarding this road as the most effective to consolidate peace and ease international tension. As far as the Indian Ocean is concerned the Soviet Union has proposed to dismantle all foreign military bases there, to abstain from creating new ones, and reduce on a mutual basis the military presence of noncoastal states.

Last spring the United States President spoke in favor of the full demilitarization of the Indian Ocean but later, after the Soviet-American talks got underway, the word "full" was dropped by American representatives. It is clear from their statements that now they prefer to talk about stabilization in the Indian Ocean or freezing military activity there. Thus another idea, an idea of stage-by-stage demilitarization, is being put forward.

Giving preference to a radical solution to the question, the Soviet Union at the same time does not reject a stage-by-stage approach, but it considers it very important that even at the first stage a proposed agreement should envisage serious and effective measures. Among these we can single out such measures as banning the introduction to the Indian Ocean or deployment in its waters, on its coasts and islands, of new weapons that have not been there before, keeping the presence of military ships in the ocean and military aircraft in its airspace and fields at the present level, refraining from the construction of new military bases and expansion of the existing ones.

Thus it is essential that stabilization or freezing should be the start of a process that could lead to a real reduction in the level of military activity in the region. It is important that the future agreement on the first stage of limiting arms in the Indian Ocean should contain no loopholes for bypassing it. The agreement should be based on the principle of equality and undiminished security. For its part the Soviet Union is doing all it can to prevent the Indian Ocean from being turned into a new hotbed of tension. This country is not creating aggressive bases in the region, nor is it concentrating its strategic forces or building up its naval might.

According to irrefutable facts the United States has been increasing its military activity in the Indian Ocean ever since the end of the sixties. The Pentagon has been regularly holding naval exercises with a large number of United States and its allies' ships in the region. On more than one occasion has it staged dangerous demonstrations of its military might to exert pressure on the coastal nations. Since 1975 the United States has been doing construction work on Diego Garcia Island to expand the big military base there in order to turn it into a stronghold for deplying its strategic forces in the region. This year $7.3 billion have been allocated for military buildup on the island. It is expected that additional allocations will be envisaged in the fiscal year of 1979.

Such practical actions of the U.S. military circles run counter to the earlier publicized intentions of the American administration and are clearly contrary to the spirit of the current Soviet-American negotiations. And it is for this reason that the Soviet Union, taking into account the position of most coastal governments, believes that a mutually acceptable agreement should be found as soon as possible to halt the arms race in the Indian Ocean.

U.S. MILITARY AID TO PERSIAN GULF CRITICIZED

LD111040Y Moscow TASS in English 0937 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 11, TASS--The United States continues increasing military aid to Persian Gulf countries. The U.S. Department of Defence officially informed the Congress of the plans to build in Saudi Arabia a centre of artillery installations and a number of other military projects. According to the Pentagon's spokesman, the United States' new deal with Saudi Arabia is estimated at 67 million dollars.

The Pentagon's report followed the decision of the U.S. Government to grant Saudi Arabia's request for deliveries of 60 "F-15" fighter bombers to the sum of 1.5 billion dollars.

Over half of the U.S. exports of armament is to Persian Gulf countries now. Over 15 billion dollars worth of the latest armaments was sold to Saudi Arabia in the recent years. Besides that, the Pentagon helps Saudi Arabia set up military bases and training grounds and train military personnel.

PENTAGON DECIDES TO MANUFACTURE NEW 'SPY PLANE'

LD121456Y Moscow TASS in English 1343 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 12 TASS--The Pentagon made the decision to start the manufacture of a modified reconnaissance plane, model U-2. According to the UPI agency, allocations for this purpose are envisaged in the new military budget of the USA.

The spy plane will be equipped with a long-range radar system intended for scanning land targets on the territory of sovereign states from areas outside their air space.

LOOPHOLES SEEN IN NEW U.S. BILL ON INTELLIGENCE

LD102305Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1645 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington--On Thursday the Senate's Select Committee on Intelligence presented new legislation concerning the activities of American intelligence bodies. Its appearance has, above all, been dictated by the need to suppress somewhat the scandal caused by a series of exposures of sordid operations by the American intelligence service, primarily the CIA, which has been systematically infringing the elementary civil rights of Americans and grossly interfering in the internal affairs of other states, and by the need to attempt to pacify incensed American public opinion.

The new bill is obviously half-hearted and leaves many loopholes for the continuation of the CIA's unlawful activity. An ASSOCIATED PRESS correspondent, in particular, emphasizes that "the bill does not prohibit the involvement of CIA agents in the forceful overthrow of undemocratic governments and in the nonviolent overthrow of democratic governments in other countries. The question of what governments are to be considered "democratic" and which ones are to be considered "undemocratic" evidently will be determined by official Washington.

CIA agents will continue to use journalists and diplomatic corps workers to obtain information. The CIA retains the right to make extensive use of photographic and electronic apparatus which American intelligence uses to gather espionage information in countries of the world.

Observers also draw attention to the fact that intelligence agents will not cease their "electronic and physical" spying on American citizens. The bill only sets formal restrictions on such practices. It does not even guarantee Americans against having their homes searched and their private correspondence opened. All this points to the fact that the new legislation does not change in the slightest the nature of the activities of the U.S. intelligence services.

CIA 'SERIOUS THREAT' TO 'PROGRESSIVE' AFRICAN COUNTRIES

LD101820Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Africa 1430 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The American Central Intelligence Agency is using the territory of the Republic of Zaire for undermining activities against independent African countries. The American Embassy in Kinshasa, as analysts close to Western circles point out, has been turned literally into a department of the CIA under whose jurisdiction is the vast territory south of the Sahara. Sixty percent of the United States Embassy staff are in the services of the American CIA. The Ethiopian newspaper ADDIS ZEMEN writes that [words indistinct] operatives of the American CIA have entrenched themselves in Zaire. Besides the embassy they are also listed as supposedly being employees of the international development bureau and the American USIS news agency. In addition to that there are numerous Christian missions [as heard] stationed throughout the vast territory of the country which possess radio transmitters.

The leadership of the CIA headquarters in Zaire is not only coordinating the actions of the American operatives in the whole continent; it has another task--that of training local personnel for conducting acts of sabotage in the independent African states which maintain strongly anti-imperialist positions. For instance, recently the Ugandan security forces put two terrorist gangs out of action; they were operating in the country's south and southeast. A large number of arms of Western make was captured, along with radio transmitters, several vehicles and equipment for printing leaflets. The terrorists possessed large sums of money in local and foreign currencies. When they were arrested they had on them a lot of literature calling for the overthrow of the existing government. The members of this gang admitted that they were closely tied with the American CIA, which generously financed and directed their activities.

In this connection it would be appropriate to recall that not so long ago a group of saboteurs was unmasked in the Congo. It was also receiving all that was necessary for its undermining activities from the American CIA. The group organized sabotage and diversion in the country and its task included the spreading of misinformation on the internal situation in the Congo.

The forces of international imperialism and reaction are using paid agents of the CIA, who are their obedient servants and tools and who are also trying to stifle the revolution in Ethiopia. In a recently published statement of the Ethiopian Government it is pointed out that behind the back of the anarchists, separatists and similar reactionary elements who are trying to deprive the Ethiopian people of their revolutionary gains is the American CIA. Members of underground groups which organize acts of terrorism and sabotage in the country are paid agents of this spy agency.

These facts once again show the serious threat that the American CIA represents for the progressive countries and the national liberation movements of the continent. In this connection the Congolese newspaper ETUMBA writes that the CIA does not loath to use any means for undermining and overthrowing progressive regimes in Africa. Everywhere, the paper stresses, the American Central Intelligence Agency serves the cause of imperialism and reaction.

U.S., SOVIET UN ASSOCIATION DISCUSSIONS 'USEFUL'

LD121244Y Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

["Useful Discussion"--TASS headline]

[Text] Sterling Forest, New York State, 12 February, TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Matyash reports:

Questions of consolidating peace, of curbing the arms race and achieving disarmament are in the spotlight of attention of the meeting of representatives of the Soviet and American Associations for the United Nations. The Soviet participants in the discussion spoke about the constructive nature of the Soviet Union's initiatives aimed at eliminating the risk of a nuclear war, at ensuring peaceful coexistence of nations.

The Soviet-U.S. agreements on a number of problems, above all the agreement on preventing a nuclear war and agreements on strategic arms limitations, were positively assessed during the discussion.

The conclusion of a new agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union on strategic offensive arms limitations would considerably lessen the risk of a nuclear war and would meet the interests of peace, prominent American diplomat and historian C. Yost told the TASS correspondent.

The participants in the discussion emphasised the need of developing Soviet-American cooperation, of taking specific steps in the sphere of disarmament and enhancing the United Nations role in consolidation of international peace and security.

They declared in favour of concluding new agreements to avert the danger of a nuclear war.

We welcome the statement of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev of November 2, 1977, about the Soviet Union's readiness to reach agreement that a moratorium covering nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes along with a ban on all nuclear weapon tests for a definite period should be announced, says a working document on the questions of peace and detente that was prepared by the American Association for the United Nations.

The document says that this initiative can become an important step along the road of achieving all-embracing agreement on banning nuclear tests for which the United Nations General Assembly calls insistently year in and year out.

The head of the Soviet delegation, academician Georgiy Arbatov, stressed in his speech that the Soviet Union resolutely declares against creation of the neutron bomb, a truly inhuman weapon.

The USSR permanent representative at the United Nations, Oleg Troyanyovskiy, set out in his speech the Soviet Union's principled stand in the United Nations on questions of ensuring international peace and security.

Additional Report

LD130928Y Moscow TASS in English 0910 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

["Soviet-American Relations Must Be Developed"--TASS headline]

[Text] Sterling Forest, (New York State), February 13 TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Matvush reports:

Representatives of the Soviet and American Associations for the United Nations held a meeting here to discuss the problems of development of Soviet-American relations, consolidating the process of relaxation of international tension, curbing the arms race and achieving disarmament. Speakers in the three-day discussion, which was held in a constructive spirit, expressed themselves in favour of deepening mutual understanding between the two great powers and improving Soviet-American relations on the basis of equality and the principles of peaceful coexistence. They stressed that this will serve not only the interests of the USA and the Soviet Union but also those of all peoples.

The Soviet and the American participants in the meeting stressed the importance of the Soviet-American strategic arms limitation talks for relations between the two countries. They said that a successful conclusion of these talks would make a great contribution to the efforts to prevent war, to a positive development of Soviet-American cooperation and to ensuring world peace.

William Scranton, the president of the American Association for the United Nations, said to the TASS correspondent that the two sides had a useful and thorough discussion of the most important problems of Soviet-American relations. He said that in his opinion this meeting will stimulate efforts to achieve still greater mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and the Soviet Union. He said he agreed with his Soviet colleagues that it was necessary to solve as a matter of priority such problems as the conclusion of a new strategic arms limitation agreement, a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapon tests and prohibition of chemical weapons.

Charles Yost, the noted American diplomat and historian, said that achievement of agreement on strategic arms limitation would be of exceedingly great importance for stopping the arms race and improving the climate of Soviet-American relations.

Helmut Sonnenfeldt, former high-ranking official of the U.S. National Scurity Council, stressed that of decisive importance in Soviet-American relations is development of a long-term strategy toward reducing confrontation between the two countries and ensuring peace.

AMERICANS PROTEST 'NEW ONSLAUGHT' ON CIVIL RIGHTS

LD101422Y Moscow TASS in English 1337 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 10, TASS--TASS commentator Yevgeniy Babenko writes: There are widespread public protests in the United States against a new onslaught on the civil rights of Americans. The matter is that the Senate approved a bill on a reform of the federal criminal legislation which leaves the authorities free to limit still more the rights and liberties of American citizens.

This new reactionary act comes into conflict with Jefferson's slogan of "life, freedom and pursuit of happiness" which is often quoted lately by the leaders of the United States.

There is obvious contradiction in this. They in the Congress were quick to see it and decided, as was done more than once in American politics before, to draw public attention to quite different things. They say that instead of repeating that there are millions of rightless and humiliated people in the USA. Just look how things are abroad.

Inasmuch as the slander campaign "in defence of human rights" in the socialist countries has begun annoying the man in the street in America and the masterminds of this campaign would like to make it appear as a manifestation of "global concern for human rights", they in the Congress decided to turn their eyes to other latitudes. But do so with one condition: not to mention among the violators of human rights Chile, South Africa, and Southern Rhodesia which are so dear to American business and certain political circles in Washington. A difficult task? Yes, it is. But the American legislators took it up.

They sent an interpellation to the State Department asking it to inform them about the observance of human rights in the countries which receive American military and economic aid. Inasmuch as Washington does not render officially direct assistance to any of the above-mentioned regimes they were not mentioned in the interpellation.

This manoeuvre was perfectly understood in the State Department which acted likewise; it issued in reply a 426-page report which makes no mention about repression and terror in Chile, the maltreatment of arrested patriots and oppression of the native population by the South African and Rhodesian racists.

So, those who ordered this report and those who prepared it played the hypocrite. It is well known to all that the USA is giving assistance--though secretly and through third countries--to all the mentioned dictatorial and racist regimes.

Official America may criticise South Africa and Chile, but the American corporations continue sending dollars to both countries, the newpaper New York TIMES admitted recently.

Thus, according to the Tanzanian magazine NEW OUTLOOK, the Vorster regime received from the West last year more than 1,200 million dollars worth of arms, with the USA being one of the main suppliers--through other countries.

So Washington's trick with supressing facts has failed. The reactionary dictatorial and racialist regimes, the recipients of American aid, were made more conspicuous by not being mentioned in the report.

PEKING SCORED FOR COLLUSION WITH IMPERIALISTS ON MIDEAST

OW121106Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1100 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Glevov commentary]

[Excerpts] The former editor-in-chief of Egypt's AL-AHRAM and friend of Egypt's former President 'Abd an-Nasir once wrote that in 1967 China was rudely opposed to the cease-fire between Egypt and Israel and that Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai had urged 'Abd an-Nasir to continue to fight. When 'Abd an-Nasir indicated that Egypt would be divided by Israel without the cease-fire, the Chinese leaders maintained their opinion.

Today, because of U.S. support for Israel and Begin's impatience to launch an aggressive war, the Middle East situation is very dangerous to Egypt, Syria and Jordan. Cairo and Damascus are constantly threatened by invasion. But while the Arab people and their real friends and allies maintain that it is imperative to stop the aggressor's invasion, Peking vociferously calls on the Arab people to escalate the war and rudely slanders the Soviet Union, which is giving a helping hand to the Arab people.

Does Peking realize that the Arab people's revolutionary accomplishments have been jeopardized? Of course it does. But Chungnanhai simply pays no attention to the Arab people's interests, the destiny of the national liberation movement in the Middle East or to the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and Zionism. Peking hopes that a large-scale war in this sensitive zone will instigate a new world war. The precarious Middle East situation and Peking's attempt to impose a war on the Arab people correspond to the wishes of Israel's militarists and to the purpose and foreign policy of their Washington bosses. Therefore it is not strange that the Peking propaganda appratus smear campaign against the Arab people and their allies has been fully encouraged and not criticized by the imperialists and the Zionists.

Dear friends, now we can see that the imperialists, Zionists, Arab reactionaries and Peking's leaders are walking in step with each other and are trampling on the vital interests of the people in the Middle East. You can see the great change that has occurred. The propaganda machines of the imperialists and the Zionists have energetically acclaimed Egyptian President as-Sadat's unilateral acts, saying that his acts are of "historic significance" and are "historic steps" toward realizing "lasting peace".

Peking is also acclaiming As-Sadat's acts. On 4 February when Hua Kuo-feng received As-Sadat's special envoy Hasan at-Tuhami, he said that the Egyptian president has waged a "heroic struggle," but he never mentioned how the Arab people's unity has been seriously undermined by As-Sadat's "heroic struggle." In fact, the Palestinian people and the people of Algeria, Libya and other Arab countries have unanimously condemned President as-Sadat's underhanded deals with the imperialists and the Zionists. They maintain that As-Sadat's acts have dealt a heavy blow to the struggling Arab people and have undermined Arab unity in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Now Peking is making a vigorous show of support for the struggle for lasting peace in the Middle East. But as a matter of fact, it does not support this. Like the imperialists, Peking's leaders have gone all out to practice their hegemonic conspiracies and to oppose peace, relaxation of the tense international situation and improvement of international relations.

The imperialists and Peking's leaders also actively support As-Sadat and his policies of (?colluding) with the imperialists, Peking's leaders and the warmongers. The political observers of many countries have pointed out that As-Sadat's principles cannot resolve the Middle East issue.

Both the plan and Middle East policy of the Peking leaders are very clumsy. Peking's adventurers have shown the world that they have completely thrown themselves to the imperialists and the reactionaries and have become their loyal accomplices.

PRC PURGE CONTINUES; CHARGES OF SOVIET-ROK COLLUSION REBUFFED

OW1117000Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 7 Feb 78 OW

[Mulatov commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear friends, it was reported that heavy snow fell in northern China on the Lunar New Year's Eve. According to an ancient Chinese myth, this is a good omen. As the saying goes, a heavy winter snowfall forecasts a bumper harvest year.

We Soviets understand how difficult it was last year for the Chinese people. We are also aware of the problems and poverty brought to the Chinese people by Mao Tse-tung's Cultural Revolution, which plunged China into chaos for more than a decade. We also know, as you do, that during this period the chinese people have suffered far more from the short-sighted policy or, to put it more correctly, the adventurist policy adopted by Mao Tse-tung and his followers on economic, social and other issues than from the irregular changes in weather. In this spring festival season, we not only wish the Chinese people a bumper harvest, but also share the aspiration of the Chinese working masses and cadres for a change in their lives.

We have consistently believed that before Mao Tse-tung's death China's leadership had dampened the hope of the Chinese people for a beautiful and bright future. Mao Tse-tung's present successors, however, have further squelched their hopes by pursuing a policy of militarization and adventurism aimed at stirring up a new world war. The present Chinese leadership has not only surpassed the gang of four but has also outshined Mao Tse-tung himself in making itself the enemy of the Chinese people by pursuing an arbitrary and irrational policy.

One example of this is that prior to the spring festival, the Chinese leadership and their propaganda machine ominously predicted the inevitability of a new world war and spread the sinister lie of the so-called Soviet threat to China. But in reality, the socialist forces and the forces of peace have overcome the reactionary forces and the forces of war in today's world. It is possible and also necessary to prevent global conflicts.

Another fact is that the Soviet Union not only does not threaten China, but instead persistently commits itself to a policy of restoring neighborly relations and cooperation in various fields between the two countries as adopted at the 24th and 25th CPSU Congresses. I believe that the Chinese people will welcome the abandonment by their present leadership of the provocative militarist and anti-Soviet policy.

Now, let me briefly review some current news. Persecution is widespread in China as new revolutionary committees are set up in various provinces and autonomous regions. Reports from Urumchi in Sinkiang's new revolutionary committee confirm this.

Statistics compiled by foreign experts show that some 80 percent of the provincial and autonomous regional leaders throughout the country have been purged. However, the Peking leadership is still not satisfied with the pace and scale of investigations on persons and matters connected with the gang of four conducted in various localities. This is clear from various articles published in PEOPLE'S DAILY. Recently, the major mouthpiece of China's leadership vociferously called for the consolidation of the army, which means, in reality, exposure and persecution. As pointed out in the foreign press, those commanders and political cadres of the army who oppose the Teng Hsiao-ping clique are their targets of attack. These reports all demonstrate that political persecution is still, as it was in the past, one of the basic aspects of the domestic policy of China's present leadership.

Finally, lets talk about the PEOPLE'S DAILY report on the so-called collusion between the Soviet Union and the Pak Chong-hui clique. The Soviet Union has consistently and invariably supported the government and the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in their struggle for the peaceful reunification of Korea and for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea. There is nothing in common between ourselves and Pak Chong-hui regime. The PEOPLE'S DAILY report on "collusion" is a propaganda smokescreen designed to divert the attention of the people of China, Korea and other Asian countries from the capitulationist policy of China's present leadership, which supports the stationing of U.S. troops in South Korea, Japan and other countries in this region.

CHINA HIT FOR 'CLOSE CONTACTS' WITH SOMOZA, PINOCHET REGIMES

LD101526Y Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] San Jose, February 10, TASS--While declaring "fraternal solidarity" with the peoples fighting for freedom and democracy, the new Peking leadership maintains most close contacts with the most reactionary regimes in the world, with those in Latin America, in particular.

The fact of close trade ties between the PRC and the Somoza dictatorial regime in Nicaragua came to light. A large batch of cotton which was secretly prepared for shipping to China was discovered at the Nicaraguan port of Corinto during the extinguishing of a fire. As it turned out, this is far from being the first batch of cotton which Peking purchased from Somoza himself who is the country's biggest latifundista. Such deals were concluded also with a number of companies which are owned by relatives of the Nicaraguan dictator.

Peking's flirting with Somoza is arousing a wrathful indignation of the Latin American public who come out in support of the patriots of Nicaragua in their struggle against the criminal pro-American regime.

Peking's treachery with regard to the Nicaraguans is only one of illustrations that the Chinese leadership is slipping down to the camp of the most rabid reactionaries. The world press more than once reported the PRC's developing political, diplomatic and economic contacts with the fascist junta in Chile. The junta's leader Pinochet more than once expressed satisfaction with "warm cordial relations" with Peking from where big easy-term credits and loans come to Chile. The Chinese leadership supports the Pinochet clique in the international arena, too.

Such is the true hidden motive of the Chinese leaders' high-sounding pseudo-revolutionary phrases by which they are trying to delude the world public.

TASS STATEMENT ON CANADA'S EXPULSION OF SOVIET OFFICIALS

LD1017llY Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1652 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

["TASS statement"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Feb TASS--In Canada a campaign has recently been intensified by the opponents of international detente and improvement of Soviet-Canadian relations. The latest expression of that campaign has been the Canadian authorities' demand that a number of officials of Soviet institutions, who are, quite without foundation, accused of "impermissible activity," should leave the country.

It is clear that behind these actions, which are aimed at harming Soviet-Canadian relations, are the special services of Canada and the forces supporting them, who are systematically engaging in hostile actions aimed at complicating the relations between our two countries. The insinuations by the Canadian special services are apparently explained by the fact that their own reputation, according to the Canadian press itself, has become seriously damaged.

TASS is empowered to state that the activities by the appropriate Canadian authorities are regarded as unfriendly and that they have been carried out for clearly provocative purposes.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY'S MOSCOW VISIT

LD1016Z5Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Presumed text of "Soviet-Austrian communique"]

[Text] Dr B. Kreisky, federal chancellor of the Republic of Austria, was in Moscow on a working visit from 6 to 8 February at the invitation of the Soviet Government. The head of the Austrian Government called on L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and had a friendly conversation with him.

Talks took place between A.N. Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Dr B. Kreisky, federal chancellor of the Republic of Austria, during which questions of Soviet-Austrian relations and prospects for their development, as well as a number of topical international problems, were discussed in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere. The discussion established the coincidence or proximity of the viewpoints of both governments on many important issues under examination.

Taking part in the talks on the Soviet side were N.K. Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan; N.S. Patolichev, USSR minister of foreign trade; V.F. Maltsev, USSR first deputy foreign minister; M.T. Yefremov, USSR ambassador to Austria; Y.V. Firsov, assistant to the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and A.P. Bondarenko, member of the Foreign Ministry Collegium. Taking part on the Austrian side were: Dr J. Staribacher, federal minister of commerce, trade and industry; Dr H. Standenat, Austrian ambassador to the USSR; Dr A. Mussil, secretary general of the Federal Trade Chamber; Dr L. Bereldingen, ministerial counselor and acting presidential chief of the Federal Chancellory; Dr M. Paelbl, ministerial counselor of the Federal Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry; Dr F. Gehart, chief of Cabinet of the Federal Chancellor; Dr G. Canisius, commercial counselor at the Austrian Embassy in the USSR; J. Kunzs, the federal chancellor's press officer; and Dr G. Weber, chief of a section of the Austrian Industrialists' Association.

When questions on bilateral relations were examined, it was noted with satisfaction that these relations are continuing to expand and grow consistently stronger. The agreements concluded in recent years between the USSR and Austria, particularly the long-term agreement on commodity turnover and payments for 1976-1985, and the 10-year program for the deepening of Soviet-Austrian economic, scientific, technical and industrial cooperation, dated 3 July 1973, are being successfully fulfilled. Commodity turnover between the two countries is increasing yearly. Useful work is being done on the expansion and improvement of the treaty which is the basis of Soviet-Austrian relations in various spheres. Exchanges and contacts are increasing between parliaments, trade unions, youth and other public organizations, and also in the spheres of science, culture, sports and tourism.

The heads of government stressed the determination of both sides to continue to take all necessary steps to build up the mutually advantageous good-neighborly cooperation which exists between the Soviet Union and Austria. This is not only in the interests of both states, but also serves the strengthening of peace in Europe and the development of the fuitful cooperation of all European states.

Both sides deemed it important not only to use the forms of cooperation that have already developed, but also to seek out new methods of cooperation which will make it possible to most effectively combine the material potential of both states and to broaden the exchange of spiritual values between the Soviet and Austrian peoples. It was deemed essential to make more active use of opportunities for the joint realisation of long-term projects, including the conclusion of agreements on deliveries and purchases, the development of industrial cooperation in the markets of third countries.

The sides confirmed their readiness to continue efforts aimed at effecting reciprocal trade on a more balanced basis. Having noted the deficit in its trade with the Soviet Union the Austrian side expressed the hope that, along with an increase in purchases of Soviet goods, the opportunity would be found to involve Austrian enterprises on a wider basis in the supply of modern equipment for the erection of industrial installations in the USSR, and also in the building of river boats in fulfillment of Soviet orders. In this regard, the terms for carrying on reciprocal trade and the technical standard and competitiveness of the goods offered will be taken into consideration.

In the context of these efforts, a representative Austrian economic delegation under the leadership of R. Gallinger, president of the Federal Trade Chamber, will visit Moscow in March in order to hold further detailed talks which will particularly serve the implementation of major projects.

The Soviet-Austrian joint commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation has been instructed to discuss and submit for the two sides' examination specific proposals for further broadening economic relations and increasing commodity turnover on a mutually advantageous basis.

During the exchange of opinions, the significance of both the State Treaty on the restoration of an independent and democratic Austria, and of the constitutionally enshrined status of permanent neutrality for insuring the lasting independence of the Austrian State and for the maintenance of friendly relations between Austria and other countries, was reaffirmed. The sides were unanimous in recognising that the State Treaty is one of the inalienable elements of the stability of the existing situation in Europe. [paragraph continues]

They affirmed that the policy of permanent neutrality being pursued by Austria has met and does meet the needs and aspirations of the Austrian people, and also the needs of international development along the path of strengthening peace, security and mutual trust.

Special attention was paid to the situation on the European Continent. The heads of government declared the determination of the Soviet Union and Austria to pursue a line toward the complete implementation of the final act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The need for the consistent deepening of the process of the relaxation of tension, for the strengthening of security and trust and for the development of peaceful cooperation in Europe was emphasized. In this context the sides exchanged opinions about the progress of the work of the Belgrade meeting. Attaching great significance to the solution of problems of such importance for the whole of Europe as environmental conservation, transportation and energy, they advocate the intensification of all-European cooperation in these fields, including the holding of appropriate international forums.

The Soviet Union and Austria stressed that political detente must be backed up by military detente. This applies not only to Europe but also to other regions of the world. They consider the achievement of an end to the arms race and the transition to measures for limiting and reducing armed forces and armaments, both conventional and nuclear, to be a most important and urgent task. The sides resolutely condemn any actions liable to increase the threat of a new world war.

They consider the continuing arms race--especially in the sphere of the production of all types of mass-destruction weapons and, above all, nuclear weapons and new varieties of nuclear weapons--to be extraordinarily dangerous. Both sides advocate the banning of nuclear weapons for all time and also urgent measures to implement the principle of the nonuse of force in international relations.

The significance was noted of the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament that is being convened this year. Both sides also advocate the speediest convening of a world conference on disarmament. The Soviet Union and Austria reaffirmed that the aim of their policies is to achieve general and complete disarmament under strict international control.

Both sides stressed that the Near East conflict, which represents a dangerous area of tension for world peace, must be resolved peacefully. They believe that an essential condition of a just and lasting peace in the Near East is respect for the rights of all states and peoples of that region, including implementation of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

When the situation on Cyprus was discussed, the unanimous opinion was expressed that the search for ways of settling the conflict peacefully must be carried out on the basis of respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and also with reasonable consideration of the rights and interests of both communities.

The sides believe that the talks which have taken place were useful and will promote the development of the friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Austria. Having noted that contacts between Soviet and Austrian statesmen and politicians have a salutary influence on the formation of these relations and impart to them a purposeful nature, the participants in the talks declared their desire to continue to develop such contacts.

KREISKY PRAISES GROWTH IN COOPERATION IN 7 FEB MOSCOW SPEECH

LD100945Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report on 7 February speech by Austrian Chancellor B. Kreisky at grand Kremlin dinner in his honor]

[Text] No responsible Austrian politician speaking here in Moscow, and especially here in the Kremlin, can fail to mention the Austrian State Treaty. For the conclusion of the Austrian State Treaty, which was prepared here just under 23 years ago, still has a bearing on the greatest events of the second republic.

I was happy to then be among the Austrian Government delegation. What happened here will always remain unforgettable.

If I were to be asked the moment in which the policy of detente began to be implemented, I would always answer: It began with the conclusion of the State Treaty--with the agreement of the four powers to give Austria its freedom and independence.

Of course, the policy of detente reached its peak at the great conference in Helsinki. But Helsinki only became possible because the policy of detente had already yielded noticeable results earlier and no one can judge this better than we Austrians. During the 23 years which have elapsed since the signing of the State Treaty, that is, in less than a quarter-century, a process has been completed in our country which the older generation finds hard to grasp: Austria, which in the interwar period was a poor country shaken by unemployment and which in March became the defenseless victim of Nazi expansion, is today a highly prosperous state whose vitality is no longer questioned.

Of course, we did a great deal by our own efforts, but our efforts would have been in vain if they had not been undertaken in an atmosphere of growing relaxation of international tension. I do not want to involve you too much in citing statistical data but I must note that never before in Austria have so many people had work as in 1977, that never before in Austria have so many goods been produced as last year, that the rate of rising prices which has become the scourge of many countries is in Austria approaching the lowest level in Europe and that our economic ties have expanded ever further in these difficult recent years.

Despite these extremely favorable facts there are problems, serious problems and several of them brought us here. We have conducted our consultations in a spirit characteristic of our relations since the time of the conclusion of the Austrian State Treaty, that is for nearly 25 years. It is a matter of Austria, which has today become a modern industrial state, participating more actively than before in the construction being so obviously carried out in the USSR.

Moreover, we want to develop new forms of economic cooperation. We could cooperate considerably more in third countries and thus substantially strengthen the idea of economic coexistence with our cooperation. There is probably something unusual in one of the greatest states in the world, in the economic sense, starting to cooperate with one of the smallest European states in the markets of third countries. Moreover we are talking about two states with differing political systems.

In passing I would like to note that such cooperation needs people, so to speak, and subjective factors. The years which have elapsed since the conclusion of the State Treaty have demonstrated that the people of both our countries quickly find a common language in the field of economics.

In the conversations which have taken place we have succeeded in reaching a mutual understanding on several difficult questions.

Of course, such a short visit does not allow one to do more than prepare the way for concrete talks. We cannot conclude deals here like businessmen but we can create the prerequisites for the businessmen to operate in an atmosphere which facilitates the conclusion of these deals. With the help of what we are preparing here jobs will be insured for thousands of engineers, workers, and employees and we will help in the creation of new jobs.

The exchange of opinions on political questions regarding the destiny of mankind did not disunite us--on the contrary.

In this context the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament which will take place this year acquires particular significance.

I am extremely glad, Mr Prime Minister, that I have again met you, as fresh and full of the energy of life as always.

We Austrians know--and you have frequently shown us this--that in you we have a good friend.

B. Kreisky proposed a toast to the health of L.I. Brezhnev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to the health of A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and to the further development and expansion of mutual relations which have been unclouded in 23 years, and to the prosperity of the peoples of the USSR.

Fulfilling the instruction of the federal president I would like, B. Kreisky said, to renew our invitation to L.I. Brezhnev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and also to take the opportunity to invite you, Mr Chairman of the Council of Ministers, to visit Austria.

FRENCH TELEVISION POLICY TERMED CONTRARY TO HELSINKI ACCORDS

LD110025Y Moscow in French to Europe 1800 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Observer Vsevolod Grigoriyev's commentary]

[Excerpts] Recently, the French television station Antenne-2 broadcast a program whose character revealed the deep hostility of its producers toward the USSR and the other socialist countries. On the TV screen one could see acting as clowns and exerting themselves in anti-Sovietism, despicable personalities such as Jiri Pelikan, a turncoat from Czechoslovakia who is making capital out of slandering his homeland and delivering frantic anti-Soviet statements. One could entirely ignore him if these anti-Soviet shows were not put on by the leaders of French television. These programs have become especially frequent in recent months. One even gets the impression that they are trying to increase their TV programs which whip up hatred against the Soviet people and the peoples of the other socialist countries.

This is entirely different from what Soviet television broadcasts, from what it says about France.

French contemporary life, its problems and achievements figure from time to time in the television magazine programs where almost daily report from France is broadcast. In our programs, without exception, we talk objectively and with respect about France, and of the cares, problems and hopes of the French people.

This program policy of Soviet television is in conformity with the spirit and the letter of the final act of the Helsinki conference in which the role of the mass media is especially stressed. Their reports are intended to contribute to the development of trust between peoples. It is also in conformity with the joint Soviet-French documents, particularly the joint statement signed by the two heads of state on 22 June 1977 at Rambouillet. This stresses in particular the importance of the development of respect, of mutual sympathy and friendship between the peoples of the USSR and France.

This naturally presupposes objective information given to one's own people on developments in other countries and also the rejection of attempts to spread the poison of discord toward other countries and peoples throughout the world. This is the Soviet position on this issue regarding television and other means of mass information.

Nobody ever resorted to unfriendly diatribes against France and its people. On the other hand, quite a different meaning is given to the exchange of information by certain leaders of the mass media in the West and in this particular case by the leaders of Antenne-2. They ask for nothing else than to discourse on the freedom of information and cultural exchanges, but in fact, by producing misleading information and calumnies, they openly violate the Helsinki agreements. How could one categorize the anti-Soviet television shows mentioned above any differently? Does this promote the development of feelings of respect and friendship between the peoples of the USSR and France? On the contrary, by consorting to serve all sorts of anti-Soviet elements, French television is fanning hostility toward the Soviet people which is a friend of France and acts to the detriment of the idea of friendship and mutual understanding between peoples.

Criticism in PRAVDA

LD112215Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1233 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 11 February, TASS--"The enemies of socialism are having a difficult time at the moment. By the strength of its own example the new social structure is winning the hearts and minds of millions more people. Powerless to oppose its truth, the opponents of socialism are resorting to such mean methods as trickery, slander, provocations and the sowing of hostility and hatred among peoples" says Vitaliy Korionov in today's PRAVDA.

He points out in a note entitled "Losing Card" that all sorts of renegades from the socialist countries who have found refuge under the roofs of anticommunist and anti-Soviet services in the West are being used more and more often in the role of "cadres" in this walk of life.

One of these pitiful buffoons, notes the author, is Jiri Pelikan. As is well known, it was precisely the television network he headed that in 1968 was setting the tone and defining the language of the campaigns directed against the communists and working people of Czechoslovakia. Now Pelikan has been deprived of such an opportunity and is looking for a stage elsewhere.

The French television company Antenne-2 in particular, has turned out to be such a stage for him. A few days ago the latest disgraceful spectacle was played out on its screen. Pelikan appeared in the role of main actor in the broadcast and certain French politicians and journalists were not embarrassed to act as extras.

Vitaliy Korionov continues by saying that it is well known that the working people of the CSSR guided by the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia are preparing to meet the 30th anniversary of the February victory over the reaction with new successes in socialist construction. These successes are an eyesore for those who do not accept the new society. In attempts to belittle and slander the results of the selfless labor of a free people all sorts of Pelikans are creeping onto the stage. In impotent fury these renegades slander their people and those who came to its help at a difficult hour and still attempt to justify the actions of the Czechoslovak counterrevolution in 1968.

Pelikan and Co, it stands to reason, are not original. In fact they are repeating the path of the Russian counterrevolutionary emigration and the White Guards who having got their desserts from their own people, fled abroad, and having fled, poured out spite in other people's gateways against the new society, against their own people. How this ended is well known to all. It ended in shame, total oblivion and scorn, inglorious vegetation in a foreign land. There is no reason to suppose that a different fate awaits Pelikan and his ilk. The vain attempts of these yesterday's men to turn back the movement of the peoples who have chosen once and for all the path of free development, is both laughable and repulsive.

It is nevertheless a pity that the French state television company offers its screens to such lampoonists. Surely, writes Vitaliy Korionov, it is clear to its leaders that "such actions in no way correspond to the nature of the relations which have arisen between the USSR and France and which are in contradiction with both the spirit and the letter of the well known bilateral agreements and understandings. The Soviet people condemn actions of this type. They have been and are in favour of the mass information media serving the cause of inculcating feelings of respect and friendship among the peoples and not turning into spreaders of slander and misinformation.

As for the Pelikans of this world, the organisers of anticommunist and anti-Soviet campaigns are banking on them in vain. There cards have been trumped. They will bring but collapse and shame.

FRG ACCUSED OF VIOLATING POSTWAR ARMS RESTRICTIONS

LD102356Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1739 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpts] Bonn--The FRG military-industrial complex, with the support of NATO circles, is violating the obligations imposed on West Germany after the collapse of Hitler's military machine. In the past western propaganda has asserted that the acceptance of the FRG as a member of NATO would make it easier to restrain and control the build-up of its military potential. In fact, membership in the North Atlantic Alliance has promoted the unchecked arms race in the FRG, which now has the second highest military expenditure in NATO, after the United States.

The arms race in the FRG, and its refusal to abide by its postwar obligations, are arousing great alarm not only among the democratic public of that country, but throughout the world.

AS-SADAT SEEKS SUPPORT AS FOREIGN TOUR CONTINUES

Austria, Romania Visits

LD121518Y Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Vienna, February 12, TASS--President as-Sadat of Egypt visited Austria where he met with the leader of the Israeli Party of Labour S. Peres. At a press conference As-Sadat said he could not indicate when the Egyptian-Israeli separate talks will be resumed before the end of the U.S. mediatory mission.

Yesterday As-Sadat arrived in Romania. Negotiations with the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu are on the programme of his visit.

No Results in U.S.

LD122355Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Egyptian President as-Sadat is making a prolonged foreign tour of the United States and a number of countries of Europe and northern Africa. Here is what our Cairo correspondent Kim Gerasimov reports:

The attempt to resolve the Near East problem through separate talks with Israel under U.S. patronage has brought Egypt to a dead end. This is shown by the results of the present talks between the presidents of the United States and Egypt, or rather by the absence of results. For the aim of As-Sadat's visit to Washington was to urge the U.S. administration to exert pressure on Israel, so that the latter would agree to a compromise acceptable to Egypt. However, judging from the available facts, the Egyptian president received only more assurances of sympathy with his aims; but, as they say, you can't put sympathy in your pocket. Meanwhile Israel, although Washington verbally condemns some aspects of its policy, continues to receive something much more substantial from the United States, arms. Right now a deal on delivery to Israel of a large consignment of the latest super-powerful F-15 and F-16 combat aircraft is being formulated.

The embraces and smiles which Egyptians [words indistinct] on the television screens in broadcasts from abroad cannot hide an obvious fact from them--the United States has been and remains the main support for Israel's expansionist policy. The semiofficial Egyptian press is complaining bitterly about this: In order to obtain U.S. favor, the EGYPTIAN GAZETTE writes, Israel is widely resorting to lies and misinformation. And, the paper complains, they are ready to listen to this in the United States and Western Europe.

In a word, as press reaction demonstrates, the results of the Egyptian president's visit are dispiriting. Nevertheless, as the same press says, Cairo intends to continue its policy, which is evoking wide condemnation in the Arab world.

U.S. Supports Separate Talks

LD121754Y Moscow in English to Africa 1330 GMT 12 Feb 78 LDD

[Text] The world press extensively covers Egyptian President as-Sadat's marathon trip--first across the ocean and later to a number of West European countries.

And as the New York TIMES has remarked, the trip contains an element of despair that an initiative started with so much fanfare has now petered out.

Evidently As-Sadat himself has realized that, writes our observer Viktor Glazunov. While in Washington he complained that Israel had done literally nothing in response to his initiative. Although As-Sadat's objective in the United States was to get Washington to put certain pressure on Israel, Washington refused to do it flatly. As-Sadat came to the American capital for support, yet the support was again given to Israel. It was given to Israel on the issue of holding the captured Arab territory and also on the denying the right of the Palestinians to form a state of their own.

It is noteworthy that the White House statement on As-Sadat's visit fails to say a word about the convening of the Geneva peace conference on the Middle East. The whole matter is reduced to Israel's separate talks with each of its neighbors. This is what Israel has always sought to achieve in the hope of laying down its own terms for a settlement this way.

What is being sought is the principles of a separate deal between Egypt and Israel at the expense of the interests of the Arab peoples--first of all the Palestinian people. Naturally enough, the Arab countries vigorously reject the search of this kind. The diplomacy of separate deals was strongly condemned by the countries attending the Algiers conference the other day.

The only way to bring a lasting and just peace to the Middle East is to achieve a comprehensive settlement taking into account the interests of all sides. And it is common knowledge that the Soviet Union has been and remains in favor of such a settlement. This country has been pressing and continues to press all along for the earliest possible resumption of the Geneva conference to be attended by all sides, including the Palestinian Liberation Organization. This stand adopted by the Soviet Union is appreciated both by the Arabs and all who seek a genuine settlement in the Middle East.

ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS 'KEY' TO MIDEAST SETTLEMENT

ID111426Y Moscow TASS in English 1110 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

["Israeli Settlements Threaten Peace in the Middle East"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, February 11, TASS--Israel continues stepping up the construction of militarized settlements in the occupied Arab lands. One after another, the Tel Aviv leaders come out with categorical statements that under any solution of the Middle East problem, Israeli settlements will remain in Arab lands and that their liquidation is out of the question.

Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, visiting in Switzerland, when giving an interview to Israeli radio on Thursday tried to prove "legality" of construction of Israeli settlements in occupied Arab lands. Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan touring the United States refused to even speak about the question of legality of Israeli settlements in an interview with the U.S. television.

Nearly 100 settlements have already been set up in occupied Arab lands. Many of them have large military garrisons that are interconnected by ramified infrastructure. The Israeli aggressors thus continue getting entrenched in occupied lands.

In the meantime the question of Israeli settlements in occupied Arab lands remains the key question of the settlement in the Middle East, along with the need of ensuring the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and creation of its own state.

But at the separate talks to which the United States continues pushing Egypt and Israel, the Egyptian side no longer demands immediate and unconditional liquidation of settlements and supports the United States' idea of a sort of "Palestinian formation" in the framework of a federation with Jordan.

Israel persists with its defiant stand, grossly flouting the lawful rights of the Palestinian Arab people and annexing occupied lands.

LEBANESE SITUATION REMAINS TENSE, PEACE EFFORTS CONTINUE

Sarkis, Khaddam Meet

LD111800Y Moscow TASS in English 1643 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 11, TASS--A meeting between Ilyas Sarkis, the president of Lebanon and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs of Syria, took place here. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived here for a visit. During the talks they discussed the situation in Lebanon and measures to normalize it. Lebanese Prime Minister Salim al-Huss and Fu'ad Butrus, Lebanese deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs, minister of defense, also took part in the talks.

Cease-Fire Effected, Communique Issued

LD111554Y Moscow TASS in English 1548 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 11, TASS--The situation in the Lebanese capital remains complicated. Despite the cease-fire agreement, skirmishes and exchanges of fire took place in some districts of Beirut between Lebanese Army units and armed units of the conservative forces, on the one hand, and Syrian troops, a contingent of the inter-Arab peace force, on the other.

In connection with the obtaining situation, a communique of the command of the inter-Arab force has been issued here. It points out, among other things, that a joint committee was formed which includes representatives of the Lebanese and Syrian armies with a view to see into the incidents that led to clashes. The communique stresses that incidents were sparked by criminal elements who undertook aggressive actions against the inter-Arab force which was discharging its duties in maintaining order in the city. The inter-Arab force was compelled to take retaliatory defensive measures.

It is noteworthy that the attempts of the rightwing circles to complicate the situation in the Lebanese capital coincide with criminal maneuvers of those who seek to preserve the tense situation in the south of the country as well. The Israeli military constantly violates Lebanon's sovereignty, carries out intrusions and bombardment of south Lebanese settlements. The statement of the Israeli Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman to the effect that Israel "keeps a close eye over the development of events" on its northern frontier is regarded in Lebanon as a poorly concealed threat of Israel's still broader interference.

In this connection a number of Lebanese newspapers note increased movement of Israeli troops on the frontier with Lebanon.

Instigative statements of some leaders of the conservative "Lebanese front", specifically, the newspaper AS-SAFIR reports that Weizman met with some leaders of the conservative forces' armed units in the south of Lebanon, including with their commander Major Sa'd Haddad. The press points out that the recent days witnessed contacts between Camille Sham'un, chairman of the "Lebanese front," and Israeli leaders.

Beirut Calm, South Tense

LD1215147 Moscow TASS in English 1252 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 12, TASS--TASS correspondent Anatoliy Borisov reports:

After bloody clashes between units of the Lebanese Army and units of the conservative "Lebanese front" on the one hand and Syrian troops that are part of the inter-Arab peace-keeping forces on the other, the situation in the eastern districts of the Lebanese capital is gradually coming back to normal. State institutions and banks resumed operations, schools and stores were opened and streets became somewhat livelier.

Active consultations were held throughout yesterday between different political leaders and a Syrian delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam that had arrived in Beirut. It is reported that during the talks agreement was reached on the ways of normalising the situation and on formation of the special military tribunal to hear cases about violations of the security regime and of a commission to investigate circumstances of the outbreak of clashes. These bodies will consist of representatives of Lebanon and Syria.

In a statement for the press the Lebanese Prime Minister Salim al-Hus said that mutual understanding concerning measures that must soon yield positive results had been achieved during the Lebanese-Syrian talks.

At the same time the newspapers report that military units of the "Lebanese front" are still in a state of heightened combat readiness and consolidate their positions in the eastern districts of Beirut.

In this connection commentators note that Israel which actively backs the Lebanese conservative forces is stepping up preparations for direct intervention in the south Lebanese districts. Intensive movements of Israeli troops and concentration of armoured and mechanised units is observed close to the frontier. New positions for Israeli artillery are being created.

According to existing data, the Israeli command expressed the readiness to provide launches and ships for bringing military formations of the conservative forces from the south of the country to Beirut by sea. Israeli planes regularly deliver arms and munitions to the Shamat Airport in the north of Lebanon which is controlled by the right-wing forces. Israeli planes make reconnaissance flights over many areas of Lebanon.

'ARAFAT VISIT POSSIBLE; AL-ASAD VISIT SET FOR 20 FEBRUARY

TA101435Y Paris AFP in English 1403 GMT 10 Feb 78 TA

[Text] Moscow, Feb 10 (AFP)--The forthcoming visit to Syria President Hafiz al-Asad here will be one of several visits to the Soviet capital by Arab leaders in coming weeks.

Last month Algerian President Houari Boumediene, and South Yemeni Premier 'Ali Muhammad, made official visits.

Reliable sources said Mr al-Asad is expected to arrive in Moscow on February 20, leading a Ba'thist Party and governmental delegation, and will stay about 3 days.

Sources here said the visit may precede that of Libyan Vice-President, Commander 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud. However, Libyan sources in Moscow did not confirm this.

Palestinian Liberation Organization Leader Yasir 'Arafat may also come here in late February or March, following a meeting of the Palestinian parliament in Tripoli, the sources added.

A visit to Moscow by Moroccan Prime Minister Ahmed Osman, originally planned for February, has been put off until March, Moroccan sources here said.

BREZHNEV CONGRATULATES SYRIA'S AL-ASAD ON REELECTION

LD101826Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1755 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 10 February TASS--Leonid Brezhnev has congratulated Hafiz al-Asad on the occasion of his reelection as president of the Syrian Arab Republic and has conveyed to him heartfelt congratulations and sincere wishes for his good health and success in his work for the good of the Syrian people.

"I express confidence that relations of lasting friendship and comprehensive cooperation in the interests of our countries and peoples will continue to develop between the USSR and the Syrian Arab Republic. I want to assure you that the friendly Syrian people can count on the unchanging support of the Soviet Union in the struggle for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Near East."

Al-Asad Reelection Message

LD111906Y Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, February 11, TASS--President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad has addressed a message to the Syrian (?nation) on the occasion of his re-election to the (?presidency for) a new term. He expressed profound gratitude for the trust in him and noted that he regarded the results of [word indistinct] referendum as a manifestation of the Syrians' firm determination to follow the path chosen for the sake of attaining objectives of the liberation struggle and construction of a new life. Hafiz al-Asad noted that trust shown by the people in him once again is the guarantee of success in the advance along the lines of progress. The president called upon the Syrian citizens to exert the utmost efforts to see to it that Syria should remain the vanguard in the struggle for honour and dignity of the Arab nation.

SYRIAN PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON ALGIERS SUMMIT, AS-SADAT'S POLICY

LD101416Y Moscow TASS in English 1358 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, February 10, TASS--The Syrian Arab Republic has from the very beginning come out against capitulatory policy and is making efforts together with others to establish a united front of Arab countries which do not agree to a separate deal with Israel, President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad said. He said that much was done at the conference in Algiers for creating such a front. We are still at the beginning of the road, the president added, but the groundwork has already been laid.

President al-Asad criticized Anwar as-Sadat's separate talks with the Israeli leaders. I consider this policy fallacious and contradicting the interests of the Arab nation, he said.

Hafiz al-Asad stressed that any bargaining over the inalienable national rights of the Arab people of Palestine is absolutely out of place. Syria, he said, has always been against any conspiracies directed against the Arab people of Palestine and will not permit any deals, vacillations or faint heartedness in respect of the cause of the Palestinian people.

Concerning Syrian-Egyptian talks, the president said: The matter here concerns the central problem, that of liberation of the Arab territories. There is no agreement between Syria and Egypt on this question and our views on the solution of this problem diverge.

Hafiz al-Asad stressed that the events in the Lebanon testify to interference by external forces in its home affairs.

Syria, the president said in conclusion, will continue efforts to rally the Arab nation against capitulatory policy and will fight staunchly, and no force will be able to push Syria off this road. All the Arab nation will stick to its position of staunchness, honour and dignity.

Hafiz al-Asad was speaking at a press conference on the results of the February 8 general referendum held in Syria to elect the head of state. As a result, he was re-elected president for a new seven-year term. 97 per cent of the electorate turned out for the referendum. 99.6 per cent of those who went to the polls voted for Hafiz al-Asad.

LIBYA'S JALLUD TO VISIT SOVIET UNION IN MID-FEBRUARY

LD101903Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1846 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 10 February, TASS--At the invitation of the Soviet Government, Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, will visit the Soviet Union on an official visit in the middle of February.

BREZHNEV CONGRATULATES CYPRUS PRESIDENT ON REELECTION

LD101924Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent a cable to Spiros Kiprianou in which he conveys his cordial congratulations and that of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in connection with Kiprianou's reelection as president of the Republic of Cyprus. The cable says: I wish you successful activities in your post, your high post, for the good of the Cypriot people and in the interest of strengthening the independence, sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Cyprus, of further developing the friendly relations between our countries and also of strengthening peace and international cooperation. In a reply cable, Spiros Kiprianou expressed deep gratitude for the congratulations. I highly value your good wishes, the cable states, and share your hope for a further strengthening of relations between the Republic of Cyprus and the Soviet Union.

IMPORTANCE OF UN ROLE IN SOLVING CYPRUS PROBLEM STRESSED

LD091541Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[R. Sanin article: "'Mediation' Is Being Imposed on Cyprus"]

[Text] The Cypriot newspaper TA NEA wrote recently that two factors are of interest to U.S. policy in the east Mediterranean region: the consolidation of NATO's southeastern flank and the imposition of its own plan for the solution of the Cyprus question. Events confirm the newspaper's conclusion. The United States' NATO and EEC allies and the representatives of the imperialist monopolies are acting or offering their "mediation" to Cyprus with the United States or on a parallel basis but in the same key.

Recently, the United States has taken several "new" steps aimed at insuring its old plans. U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance has visited Greece and Turkey in the hope of further normalizing Greek-Turkish relations, bringing their positions on the Cyprus issue closer together and, by involving the two countries in talks between the two communities on Cyprus, achieving the main aim--removing the Cyprus problem from UN jurisdiction and turning it into an internal NATO matter, thus legalizing the events which have taken shape on Cyprus as a result of foreign interference, and including the island in NATO's military sphere.

There is no doubt that various initiatives and new proposals on Cyprus may emerge. Primarily, they should be constructive and aimed at a real settlement of the problem on the basis of UN resolutions. They should also seek the reinforcement, not the replacement of the UN role in this matter of importance both to the Cypriot people and to the international community. Every effort must be made to insure that these resolutions are fulfilled and that a representative international conference on Cyprus, proposed in the past by the Soviet Union, is finally convened under the aegis of the United Nations. But "mediation," which sidetracks real ways of settling the Cyprus problem, in no way corresponds to the interests of the Cypriot population.

S. Kiprianou, who has been reelected president, stressed: "Our position is that the Cyprus problem should be resolved within the framework of the United Nations and on the basis of its resolutions." This position is fully and wholly supported by all peace-loving countries. The peoples of the socialist countries, including the Soviet people, who sincerely want to see Cyprus an independent, united state, are on its side.

MORE MATERIAL ON ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA CONFLICT

Ethiopian Statement

LD101920Y Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

["Ethiopia's Stand"--TASS headline]

[Text] Addis Ababa, Frebruary 10 TASS--The press of the reactionary Arab regimes, which by their arms deliveries and financial support to Somalia have actually become accomplices in a war of aggression against Ethiopia, has lately been trying to shield the Somalian leaders and cast aspersions on a just and principled stand of Ethiopia, to sow dissension between Ethiopia and the progressive Arab world. With this aim a story was put about that Ethiopia allegedly receives arms from Israel. It is not certainly accidental that the allegation appeared at a time that Israel and Egypt are engaged in separate negotiations.

Ethiopia's Foreign Ministry has made a statement characterising such allegations as "political blackmail". The statement stresses that such actions "are nothing but an attempt to isolate Ethiopia from the revolutionary and progressive Arab world Ethiopia fully associates itself with, the desire to drive a wedge between Ethiopia and the socialist world."

Ethiopia now is capable of defending her sovereignty and territorial integrity herself thanks to the disinterested assistance that has been rendered by countries of the socialist community, primarily the Soviet Union, thanks to the support of the progressive forces of the Arab world and other parts of the globe. The Ethiopian revolution, the Foreign Ministry stresses, has consolidated its positions and steadily advances forward.

Ethiopia's Foreign Ministry in its statement strongly denounced the actions of Egyptian President as-Sadat, who recently admitted that he was supplying arms to the Somali aggressors for their war against Ethiopia. The Egyptian president, the statement points out, fully discredited himself. As-Sadat's admission that he gives active military support to the war of aggression waged on Ethiopia's territory has the most serious and far-reaching consequences for the African Continent and the world community. As-Sadat has demonstrated full disregard for the main principles and the resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, including the principle of inadmissibility of acquisition of foreign lands by the force of arms.

The statement points out that the African countries and all states of the world cannot keep silence at a time that the Egyptian president openly admits his direct complicity in the aggression against Ethiopia. Sovereign African states should pay attention to the fact that Somalia is now a striking force of reactionary regimes in their expansionist plans of penetration into Africa.

The Foreign Ministry of Ethiopia has come out against attempts of reactionary Arab regimes to set their control over the Red Sea which, the statement points out, should be covered by international navigation laws.

NATO 'Interference'

LD102348Y Moscow in Italian to Italy 1730 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Viktor Shlenov commentary]

[Text] Alarming reports are arriving from the [word indistinct] of the Horn of Africa. Despite official denials, what is secret is becoming public knowledge.

The NATO countries are giving increasing financial and military aid to Somalia, which has unleashed a war against Ethiopia. On 8 February, the American newspaper Washington POST reported that Somalia had begun to receive tanks of French origin through a third country, which is believed to be Saudi Arabia. The Federal Republic of Germany has granted Somalia more than DM 50 million, the bulk of which the government of that country intends to use to purchase arms.

There was a time when the NATO leaders gave assurances that the activities of that bloc were limited solely to the Atlantic area, our commentator, Viktor Shlenov, writes in this connection. But for several years now the leaders of that bloc, under U.S. pressure, have attempted to widen NATO's sphere of activities in order to exploit it as a sort of fire-fighting unit in the struggle against movements of national liberation in the Middle East and the countries of Africa. This is how international observers interpret the American proposal to create--within the framework of the Atlantic alliance--regional forces capable of being transferred to various areas of the globe.

In a recent interview given to the American weekly NEWSWEEK, NATO Commander in Chief General Haig stated openly that the role of NATO is not at all limited to Europe and that it is essential to create regional containment forces immediately in order to prevent the evolution of certain events in the countries of the Third World in a direction far from pleasing to the West. But even without the fire fighting unit, NATO has lately interfered grossly in the affairs of the Middle East and Africa under various pretexts in order to overthrow progressive regimes and to (?shore up) reactionary forces. We can recall in this connection the Israeli aggression against the Arab states, when the NATO countries gave moral and material aid to the aggressor. In 1976-1977, the NATO countries supplied money and weapons to the Angolan secessionists who were attempting to overthrow the legitimate government of that country.

A vast campaign for the recruitment of mercenaries has been organized in the countries of Western Europe. In order to justify NATO's interference in Ethiopia, Atlantic propaganda disseminates slanders alleging the participation of Soviet and Cuban troops and thousands of tanks and aircraft in the Somalia-Ethiopia conflict, and these troops are allegedly conducting an offensive against Somalia.

This low method is far from new. With slanders of this sort, NATO tries to camouflage its own objectives of rather considerable scope, which are to overthrow the progressive regime in Ethiopia and to transform Somalia into its vassal in order to be able to use the Horn of Africa as a place d'armes for the struggle against the independent states of Africa and the Middle East.

Demonstrations in Ethiopia

LD112214Y Moscow TASS in English 1952 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

["To Defend the Achievements of the Revolution"--TASS headline]

[Excerpt] Addis Ababa, February 11, TASS--Mass demonstrations and meetings have been held throughout Ethiopia, the participants in which have been demanding an end to the complicity of the imperialist forces and the reactionary Arab regimes with the Somali aggressors.

At a meeting in the town of Debra Markos, the administrative centre of the Province of Gojam, thousands of workers, peasants and representatives of the intelligentsia declared their determination to oppose with all their might the imperialist plans to stifle the Ethiopian revolution and to divide up the country. They came out in favour of the cohesion of the popular masses in the struggle against internal and external reaction, stressing that the sole way to ending the war in the Horn of Africa is the unconditional, speedy and complete withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopian territory.

Pressure on Ethiopia

LD111216Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1135 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa--According to reports from official Ethiopian sources, Ethiopia's troops are continuing their offensive in the Ogaden area, which Somali Armed Forces invaded. A number of towns and settlements have been liberated. Peaceful life is being resumed on liberated territory.

In connection with the events taking place in the Ogaden a number of Western news agencies have circulated statements which have the manifest aim of bringing pressure to bear on the Ethiopian side. In particular, the West German Agency DPA cites an official report which states that "Ethiopia's troops entering Somali state territory would be seen as a very serious development in Bonn." Similar statements regarding support for Somalia have also appeared in the capitals of other countries of the NATO bloc. "In British Government circles, AFP reports from London, it is believed that an Ethiopian invasion into Somalia would have considerably more serious consequences for the Horn of Africa than Somali raids into the Ogaden." U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance stated yesterday at a press conference that "if Ethiopia crossed the border then this would create a new and different situation, and then we would have to examine the situation that had arisen." But all these statements have no real foundation inasmuch as Ethiopia is waging a struggle for the liberation of its land from the aggressor which is occupying it.

Ethiopia is not seeking to cross the Ethiopian-Somali border. This was confirmed again the other day by Mengistu Haile Mariam, the chairman of the Ethiopia's Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC]. He stated that Ethiopia does not have territorial claims against any country. Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress, PMAC general secretary, in turn, resolutely refuted concoctions by Western propaganda about "Ethiopian plans to invade Somalia." Those who are deliberately distorting Ethiopia's clear position are not doing this with the best of motives. Their aim is to pour oil on the fire and to inflame even more the conflict in the Horn of Africa. The role which they have taken on is unseemly.

Ethiopian Assault; Somali Mobilization

LD121638Y Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

["Events in the Horn of Africa"--TASS headline]

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 12, TASS--An official communique has been published here about the assault launched by Ethiopia against the Somali troops which invaded her territory.

It points out that the armed forces and detachments of the people's militia of Ethiopia achieved big successes. The aggressor has sustained heavy losses in manpower and materiel; great quantities of the enemy's weapons and military hardware have been captured, including tanks, artillery pieces and mortars.

The communique stresses that the assault has been launched for liberating Ethiopian territory and is not aimed at crossing the Somali border.

In distinction from Somalia, Ethiopia has no territorial claims to other states, declared the chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of Addis Ababa Debele Dinsa, at a meeting with the people of Addis Ababa. We shall not lay down our arms, he stressed, as long as there is a threat to the existence of revolutionary Ethiopia.

The chief of department for operative questions and the defence of the revolution under the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC), Getachu Shibeshi, told a meeting of chairmen of the peasants' associations of Hararge Province that the armed detachments of Somalis who invaded Ethiopia are sustaining serious losses under the blows of the army and the people's militia, as well as of the veterans who have risen in defence of the motherland. He stressed that the only way to end the war in the Horn of Africa is the unconditional, immediate and complete withdrawal of all Somali troops from Ethiopian territory.

Mass meetings of protest against the complicity of NATO countries and reactionary Arab regimes in the Somali aggression were held in many cities of the country. Speakers expressed firm belief in the success of the Ethiopian people's just struggle, which, as many speakers stressed, enjoys the support of the countries of the socialist community and all the progressive forces of the world.

Nairobi, February 12, TASS--Reports from Mogadiscio indicate that at a meeting there the Somali leadership took the decision to announce a general mobilisation and introduce martial law in the country. A statement published after the meeting for the first time officially admits that regular Somali troops are taking part in the invasion into Ethiopia.

Contrary to the well-known fact that Somalia has perpetrated an aggression against Ethiopia, the statement speaks of "a threat to the sovereignty and independence of Somalia". The fact of the Somali aggression has been acknowledged by many states and international organisations, the OAU included. Nevertheless, the Somali Government is brazen enough to charge the Soviet Union and other socialist countries with "interferring in the conflict".

It is well-known that from the very beginning of the Somali invasion into its neighbour country, the Soviet Union warned President Barre of Somalia against such an action and urged to resolve the conflict by peaceful means. The Somali leadership, however, actually ignored this appeal and launched an invasion into the territory of the sovereign and independent state of Ethiopia.

The threats addressed against the socialist countries, contained in the statement, are absolutely groundless. The only thing required of Somalia is to end the aggression and not to broaden the armed conflict.

London, February 12, TASS--The paper SUNDAY TELEGRAPH reports that the United States, together with Britain and other NATO countries, has drawn up a plan for an urgent dispatch of American armaments, tanks, missiles and jet bombers included, to Somalia. The deliveries will be carried out both by air and sea from the territories of the USA and West Germany. The FRG, Italy, and other NATO countries may also take part in arms deliveries to Somalia. Referring to informed sources, the SUNDAY TELEGRAPH alleges that Iran offered to send 3,000 servicemen to Somalia.

The Western press testifies to the broad flow of weapons to Somalia sent by NATO member countries. According to these reports large consignments of American firearms, Italian mortars, grenade throwers from NATO countries, anti-tank rifles, machine gunes, munitions and military trucks have arrived in Somalia.

'Foreign Soldiers' With Somalis

LD131048Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] In the town of Harar, the administrative center of the Ethiopian Province of Hararge, a press conference was organized for foreign and local journalists. It was stated at the press conference that between 5,000 and 12,000 soldiers from foreign armies are taking part in military operations on the Somali side. The journalists were told that Egypt, Saudi Arabia and other reactionary regimes are giving help to Somalia.

WESTERN PLANS FOR NAMIBIA ATTRIBUTED TO PROFIT MOTIVE

LD110014Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] On 11 February at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York a 2-day conference will open, attended by the U.S. secretary of state and the foreign ministers of Britain, France, the FRG, Canada and the Republic of South Africa on the question of Namibia. Western diplomacy has recently begun a period of stormy activity with the aim of convincing world opinion that it is allegedly striving for peaceful ways to grant independence to Namibia. Beginning in April of last year the representatives of the five named Western countries have conducted a whole series of meetings with representatives of the racialist regime of the Republic of South Africa which is illegally occupying the territory of South-West Africa.

The conference will now be held at the level of the heads of the diplomatic departments. The analyses of the results of the preceding talks allow one to reach the conclusion that the United States, Britain, France, the FRG and Canada, who have taken upon themselves the role of organizers of the fate of the Namibian people, are in actual fact striving to get the development of events in this region under their control and to get around the legal responsibility of the United Nations for Namibia, and they are crassly ignoring the mechanism worked out by the international community for insuring the independence of this African country. The United Nations had adopted about 100 resolutions demanding the immediate withdrawal of the occupying forces and the administration of the Republic of South Africa from the territory of South-West Africa.

A special UN Council on Namibia was established back in 1967; it is responsible for control of the country in the transitional period. The independence of Namibia was supposed to be insured in 1968. The responsibility for the fact that the South African racialists have not yet submitted to the demands of the United Nations lies, above all, at the feet of the Western countries. They have basely blocked all the resolutions of the United Nations and have encouraged Pretoria to ignore them. And now suddenly there is such diplomatic activity on the question of Namibia. It is not at all explained by a concern for measures for the prosperity of this country but by a concern for the preservation there of the interests of the imperialist powers.

At the moment, according to calculations by economists, 80 percent of the profit from the exploitation of the very rich resources of Namibia is being strained by the seive of the Western monopolies. This source of fabulous profit will end if power in the country, as a result of the armed struggle by Namibian patriots, passes into the hands of the vanguard of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, which has been called by the United Nations the only legal representative of the people of Namibia.

In order not to allow this the five Western powers, together with their racialis' allies from the Republic of South Africa, are hastening to push through the plans of the fictional independence in Namibia by the end of the year, which would allow them to clean out its riches even further.

ISRAELI FINANCE MINISTER'S SOUTH AFRICA VISIT CRITICIZED

LD112128Y Moscow TASS in English 2020 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Maputo, February 11, TASS--A five-day visit to the Republic of South Africa by Israel Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich is over. The visit by the representative of the Zionist state to South African racists was keynoted by a further consolidation of the Tel Aviv-Pretoria ominous axis. According to official reports, such problems as trade, capital investments, and air transport were touched upon during the visit. But the discussion of a wide range of matters pertaining to an expansion of bilateral military-economic cooperation was the main item on the agenda of the talks, which were held behind closed doors.

The alliance of Tel Aviv Zionists and Pretoria racists is being intensively supported by militarist circles of the West, of the USA in the first place, with a view to containing the liberation movement in the Middle East and in Africa. For many years already Israel has been serving as a transshipment point for secret transportation of various types of armament from NATO arsenals to the Republic of South Africa in breach of U.N. resolutions. Tel Aviv also supplies the Pretoria regime with the output of its own military industry fostered with the help of the West, with rocket boats, "Arava" and "Kfir" aircraft, up-to-date electronic equipment, and automatic small arms, in particular.

Tel Aviv and Pretoria actively exchange experience in anti-guerrilla warfare and the use of new types of weapons. Israel sends military advisers and instructors to the Republic of South Africa. Officially Tel Aviv denies the presence of its military personnel in the Republic of South Africa. But, according to the press, Israeli instructors directly participated in planning out the armed intervention of the South Africa military in Angola. According to statements of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), special units of Israeli commandos are fighting against the patriots of the Namibian people.

The two countries' close ties in the area of creation of their own nuclear weapons are of the most ominous character. The Pretoria authorities provide Israel with uranium in exchange for Israeli experts' assistance to the Atomic Energy Board of the Republic of South Africa.

The Africa public repeatedly drew attention to a threat to peace and security, threat with which the consolidation of the Pretoria-Tel Aviv ominious axis is fraught. The journal AFRICA COMMUNIST wrote that this collusion is based on the community of man-hating conceptions of Zionism and apartheid and the efforts of these most reactionary forces of imperialism to subdue the peoples who struggle for peace and progress.

WEST HELPS SOUTH AFRICA PRODUCE 'LATEST KINDS OF WEAPONS'

LD102204Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" Program, with Valeriy Kosovan]

[Text] The Republic of South Africa will produce its own missiles and rockets [snaryadv i raketv]. A special company--(Kentron)--has been formed for this purpose, as a subsidiary of the Armaments Development and Production Corp of South Africa. This was announced in Pretoria by the head of the corporation, Dekker.

Western firms are helping the racist regime to master the production of the latest kinds of weapons. They are cooperating actively with the Republic of South Africa in the military field, despite the embargo on arms supplies imposed by the United Nations.

3-DAY BRITISH-SUDANESE MILITARY EXERCISES END

LD121132Y Moscow TASS in English 1008 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Khartoum, February 12, TASS--Three-day Sudanese-British military exercises ended in Gebeit district. The purpose of the exercises was drilling of Sudanese units in the use of the latest weapons of Western makes.

Military delegations of Egypt and the United Arab Emirates watched the exercises.

SOVIET DELEGATE PULLS OUT OF INDIAN OCEAN CONFERENCE

LD101025Y London THE GUARDIAN in English 10 Feb 78 p 6 LD

[Article from Simon Winchester in New Delhi: "Russia Pulls Out of Indian Ocean Talks"]

[Text] A high-level international conference due to begin here on Sunday to discuss Indian Ocean disarmament received a setback yesterday with the unexpected withdrawal of the only Soviet delegate, Dr Grigoriy Khozin. A senior member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences told the organisers of the conference that due to "unavoidable circumstances" he would not be able to participate.

The former Indian ambassador to the UN, Mr Arthus Lall, who is directing the conference under the auspices of the New York-based International Peace Academy, expressed disappointment at the Soviet withdrawal.

"Clearly there have been bad political blizzards in Moscow over this. I would like to ask any other interested Russian to join us, but I fear no one will be allowed to come," he said.

The conference has attracted an impressive selection of officials and policymakers from many of the 24 countries that are either bordering the Indian Ocean or have a vested interest in Indian Ocean politics.

A junior foreign affairs minister from Tanzania is due to attend, and senior American, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladesh, and Iranian Government officials have also signalled their intention to come. In all 35 delegates are due from 13 countries.

However, despite specific invitations aimed at arms experts, delegates from Burma and Vietnam refused to take part, and there has been, perhaps understandably, no response from either China or Cambodia.

The Government of the Maldives which recently turned down a 500,000-pound offer from the Russians for use of the abandoned dock facilities on Gan Island, is not attending either--but that is probably because, aside from President Ibrahim Nasir, there is no authority on Indian Ocean military politics on the archipelago. A Somalian Government official is taking part, but the Ethiopians, who may well have a vested interest in the Somali port of Berbera--from which the Russians were recently expelled--are not.

The conference has a regional slant--in common with most conferences organised by the Peace Academy--and will be discussing general questions relating to South Asian and East African arms trading and disarmament policy.

But, despite its topicality, there will be no discussion of Kashmir--one of the principal problems of the region that is at least partly responsible for both India and Pakistan maintaining huge and costly armed forces.

The organisers feel that the subject is too sensitive to be discussed in India, even though the conference is not being assisted by the Indian Government. The last time the academy discussed Kashmir was in the disinterested climate of Vienna a year ago.

CAMBODIA REJECTS PEACE PROPOSALS, BLAMES SRV WITHOUT REASON

OW101705Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 9 Feb 78 OW

[Text] SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh has sent a note to Mr Waldheim on the 5 February SRV Government statement concerning relations between Vietnam and Cambodia. Our commentator writes:

The note stresses that the proposal for a peaceful settlement of the Vietnamese-Cambodian problem contained in the SRV Government statement is compatible with the UN Charter and the interests of peace and security in Southeast Asia and elsewhere in the world. Nguyen Duy Trinh expressed hope that this statement would receive the UN secretary general's sympathy and support and that it would be forwarded to all UN member countries as an official document.

We would like to recall that Hanoi has frequently proposed that Phnom Penh join it in negotiations to solve the border conflict between Vietnam and Cambodia, pointing to the friendship between the two countries forged in nearly a century of struggle for independence and sovereignty against imperialism and colonialism.

The SRV Government statement also pointed out that the border problem should be settled through negotiations on the basis of complete equality and respect for each country's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The SRV Government statement again called on Cambodia to end all military activities in the border areas and proposed that the two sides withdraw their armed forces and keep them deep in their respective territories. The Vietnamese Government proposed the signing of a treaty that will insure mutual respect for the existing border.

So far, however, the Cambodian side has rejected these peace proposals and without any reason blamed Vietnam. Its fabrications contain, in particular, the slanderous charge that Vietnam is trying to force Cambodia to join a so-called Indochinese federation and that it intervenes in Cambodia's internal affairs. In this connection, the Voice of Vietnam recently stressed that Cambodia has charged Vietnam with acts it never committed.

At a press conference in Moscow, Nguyen Huu Khieu, SRV ambassador to the USSR, pointed to numerous facts refuting Cambodia's allegations. He declared that the Cambodian leadership is creating tension with Vietnam in an attempt to distract the Cambodian people's attention from their country's acute internal problems.

The tension on the Vietnam-Cambodia border can only worry the friends of the peoples of these two countries. As they have always been concerned about the maintenance of peace and friendship in the three Indochinese countries, they support the SRV's initiative designed to solve the Vietnam-Cambodia border conflict fairly.

BORDER INHABITANTS 'BEWILDERED' BY CAMBODIAN LEADERS' ACTIONS

LD031317Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 78 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Eyewitness Testimony"]

[Text] Hanoi, 30 January--The border conflict between Vietnam and Cambodia, countries with a common historical destiny whose peoples fought together against a common enemy--foreign aggressors--is arousing concern among people of good will. A group of foreign correspondents visited certain regions of the Vietnamese An Giang and Tay Ninh provinces, which have suffered attacks by Cambodian forces at various times.

The traces of attacks by Cambodian soldiers are quite fresh in the Bay Nui District of An Giang Province.

The charred remains of houses and public buildings occupy the site of the almost completely burned-out village of Ba Den. In one day, 68 local residents were killed and wounded there, and more than 3,500 hectares of ripe rice were destroyed.

According to statements by Vietnamese officials, the Cambodian side has recently begun to use long-range artillery to fire on Vietnamese territory.

The Cambodian Army's actions are not going unpunished; the Vietnamese Armed Forces are dealing them a decisive rebuff.

"On 19 January," (Buy Thanh Ngoi), a lieutenant colonel in the Vietnamese Border Service who accompanied the journalists, relates, "in the battle to repel the attack on Bay Nui district, which continued from early morning to late evening, we inflicted great losses on five Cambodian battalions. They fled across the saddle of Phuc Yong Mountain. More than 1,000 dead were left on the slopes of the mountain."

Abandoning dangerous areas, refugees from both the Vietnamese and Cambodian border regions stretch deep into Vietnam. Among them are Vietnamese who have lived in Cambodia for generations but are now persecuted by Cambodian authorities, and Cambodians for whom life in their motherland has become intolerable.

"Many of my acquaintances," (Truong Ng), a former teacher of elementary classes who crossed into Vietnam from Cambodia in January, testifies, "have been arrested for sympathizing with Vietnam, and I do not know their fate."

Hundreds of Khmers who found themselves in a difficult position have found shelter on Vietnamese soil where they are provided with food and receive medical help.

In spite of the complex situation in Vietnamese border regions, agricultural work has not stopped for a single day. The population of these areas has always lived in good, friendly relations with their Cambodian neighbors. Ordinary people here are bewildered by the present Cambodian leaders actions which force soldiers to carry out attacks on Vietnamese villages and kill their children and brothers.

SRV RADIO OFFICIAL REITERATES VIETNAMESE PEACE PROPOSALS

LD111358Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1300 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The world public is attentively watching the events on the border of the SRV and Democratic Kampuchea. The people are concerned over the situation there, and the question naturally arises: What means are there for the liquidation of the dangerous hotbed of tension? Here is what the director general of the Vietnamese radio and television, Tran Lam, has to say on the subject:

[Tran Lam in Vietnamese fading into English translation] First of all, says Tran Lam, I would like to thank Radio Station Peace and Progress for enabling me to make this address to the Soviet public and to share my opinions on the events along the Vietnamese-Kampuchean border.

Radio Station Peace and Progress has already informed its listeners concerning the constructive proposals made by the Government of Socialist Vietnam on a peaceful settlement of the conflict with Kampuchea.

Our country proposed that an immediate halt be made to all hostile military operations along the border regions, that the armed forces of both sides be withdrawn to positions 5 km from their borders, that a meeting be held immediately either in Hanoi or in Phnom Penh, or on the border between the two countries to conduct negotiations. It is essential to sign a treaty at these negotiations on obligations to respect each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, to respect the principles of nonaggression, abstention of the use of force or threat of using force in relations between the two countries and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. It is also proposed, says Tran Lam, to stop all undermining activities against each other, to establish equal relations, live in peace and friendship and maintain good neighborly relations. At the same time it is proposed to sign a border treaty between our two countries on the basis of respect for each other's territorial sovereignty by preserving the existing borders, to agree to the corresponding forms of international guarantees and international control.

Speaking today before you, says Tran Lam, I would like to refer to another matter. The Kampuchean leaders, trying to justify their aggressive actions against our country, are declaring that Vietnam allegedly wants to drag Kampuchea into a so-called Indochinese federation, that we are trying to overthrow the current Kampuchean Government and capture its territory and, first and foremost, the expansive ricefields.

We think there is not a single sober-minded person in the world who could believe these obvious fabrications. From generation to generation almost one-half of a million Vietnamese have lived in Kampuchea. Many of them have fought for Kampuchea and given their lives to free it. Vietnam and Kampuchea are neighbors who have struggled shoulder to shoulder against our common enemy and who have together won a glorious victory in the struggle for a national emancipation. For the Vietnamese people, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kampuchea are most important factors for preserving Vietnam's own independence. That is precisely why the Vietnamese people and the government of our country have done and are doing everything possible to preserve the solidarity and friendship of the Kampuchean people and oppose the maneuvers of the imperialists and forces of international reaction aimed at splitting us. However, the current actions of the Kampuchean side are undermining the friendship between our peoples and go counter to the national interests of our peoples, the interests of peace and security in that part of the world. And that is why, said Tran Lam in conclusion, we call for the speediest peaceful settlement of the conflict between Vietnam and Kampuchea. [end recording]

VIETNAMESE RADIO ASSESSMENT OF CAMBODIAN'S STATEMENT CITED

LD121522Y Moscow TASS in English 1438 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 12, TASS--The Voice of Vietnam radio station has broadcast a statement on the interview given by a spokesman of Kampuchea's Embassy in Peking to a correspondent of the ANSA agency of Italy. The Kampuchean spokesman, the broadcast said, grossly distorted the essence of the peaceful proposals outlined in the SRV Government statement of February 5 about relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea, as he described it "an attempt to bully Kampuchea and deceive world public opinion."

The assertions of the Kampuchean spokesman, the Voice of Vietnam radio station says, lack good will and a sensible approach to a settlement of the conflict. This is nothing but a manoeuvre by Kampuchea, aimed at evading the demands of broad circles of world public opinion which urge the leadership of that country to response to Vietnam's constructive proposals to sit down at the negotiations table and peaceably settle border questions between the two countries in the spirit of friendship and brotherhood.

WIDE SUPPORT FOR DPRK GOVERNMENT MEMORANDUM NOTED

SK130337Y Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 12 Feb 78 SK

[Text] PRAVDA commentator Krushinskiy said today that the DPRK Government's memorandum which analyzes the parties and methods involved in hampering Korea's peaceful reunification is winning sympathy from broad social (?organizations). The DPRK is steadily pursuing its policy to peacefully reunify the nation on democratic principles. The policy is in accord with the cherished desire of all Korean people to live and work in a reunified fatherland. At the same time, this policy conforms with the security interests of the world and the Far East. Korea's division, the stationing of U.S. forces in South Korea, and the various military buildups there are causing dangerous tension conducive to a new military confrontation. The South Korean authorities and their imperialist supporters ended the north-south dialog initiated by the DPRK in 1972.

Today, the U.S. leadership is employing political trickery to conceal its wicked scheme to perpetuate the nation's division. For instance, to justify two Koreas, the U.S. government is producing propaganda concerning the simultaneous entry of North and South Korea into the United Nations and is planning to modify the complete withdrawal of U.S. forces to a reduction of U.S. forces.

Meanwhile, the militarization of South Korea is being intensified. According to foreign reports, the United States plans to transfer $6 billion worth of weapons in the next 5 years. As has been reported, a Pentagon plan includes the establishment of a U.S.-South Korean joint command. Concerning this, the DPRK Government memorandum justly pointed out that Korea's tension and division results from outside forces' intervention.

The Korean people's just cause is winning the Soviet people's sincere understanding and support. The Soviet Union, other socialist nations and the progressive forces of the entire world, faithful to the principles of proletarian internationalism, are expressing support for the peaceful proposals of the DPRK Government and extend fraternal solidarity toward the Korean people's struggle to have (?foreign forces) withdraw from South Korea and to attain the independent and peaceful reunification of their fatherland.

JAPANESE INDIGNANT OVER U.S. NAVY NUCLEAR PRESENCE

OW101433Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1400 GMT 9 Feb 78 OW

[Text] According to a report from Tokyo, the U.S. act of bringing nuclear arms into Japan has aroused public indignation in Japan. U.S. Secretary of the Navy Claytor, in his testimony before Congress, disclosed that the 7th Fleet warships carrying nuclear arms have been using Japan as their base. Claytor said that the aircraft carrier Midway, which is homeported in Yokosuka, carries aircraft loaded with nuclear bombs.

Aircraft carriers, cruisers, missile ships, submarines and other warships of the U.S. Navy visit Japanese ports regularly. Newspapers have repeatedly reported that these warships are equipped with nuclear weapons. This has now been confirmed by one of the Pentagon leaders.

Gensuikyo [Anti-Atom Hydrogen Bomb Council], Gensuikin [Japan Congress for Prohibition of Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs] and other democratic organizations in Japan have issued statements protesting the U.S. use of Japan as a base for its nuclear warships.

(Hyoso Sugiyama) of Gensuikyo has told a TASS correspondent: "The U.S. Navy secretary's statement shows how dangerous the 7th Fleet is for Japan. The Japan-U.S. Security Treaty must be repealed because it enables the U.S. nuclear-arms carrying warships to visit Japanese ports. We call for a complete ban of nuclear arms."

U.S. EXERTS GROWING PRESSURE ON JAPAN TO MILITARIZE

LD122352Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2030 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to a KYODO correspondent's report from Washington, Gleysteen, a representative of the U.S. State Department, called on Tokyo to assume the defense of its own country during a meeting with a delegation of Japanese parliamentarians.

The U.S. Government is more frequently and persistently addressing these kinds of appeals to Japan's leaders, our commentator notes. The growing importunity of such appeals can create the impression that on the other side of the ocean they are showing concern for the security of a state which is defenseless, militarily speaking.

However, the facts are completely different. Although Japan's constitution maintains that land, naval and air forces, as well as other military means will never be created in the country, they now exist there. These are the so-called national Self-Defense Forces. Established originally chiefly to maintain internal order, they now number 262,000 men. This is an army equipped with tanks, heavy artillery, modern aircraft, tactical rockets, submarines, destroyers, and other combat equipment which is far from defensive in nature.

Briefly speaking, the term Self-Defense Forces does not disguise the most classic armed forces. Japan is building its military potential continuously. Suffice it to say that in 1977-1981, 12.6 trillion yen will be assigned to the armed forces. This is twice the expenditure for the same purpose in the previous 5-year plan period.

In this connection, it is becoming clear that the afore-mentioned appeals by Washington should be regarded as growing pressure by the United States on Japan with the intent of increasing Japan's militarization. The strategists on the other side of the ocean demand that Japan take on a more substantial role in the so-called Japan-American security treaty. In this connection, they insist that the Japanese Army's fighting power should be strengthened through increased purchases of American armaments. They are also trying to obtain Tokyo's consent to refund part of the expenditures to maintain U.S. Armed Forces stationed on Japanese territory.

Judging from reports from Tokyo, the Japanese Government is satisfying the demands of the United States. Moreover, Japanese arms manufacturers are trying to obtain an increase in the Self-Defense Forces. At a conference of Japan's economic organizations, for instance, (Kot), a representative of the Mitsubishi (Zukodio), spoke. He openly called on the Japanese Government to steer a course toward speeding up military preparations.

These alarming militarist tendencies can have nothing in common with the Japanese people's genuine national intersts.

MASHEROV NAMED HERO OF SOCIALIST LABOR ON 60TH BIRTHDAY

LD121830Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers have warmly congratulated Petr Mironovich Masherov, prominent figure of the Communist Party and Soviet state, in connection with his 60th birthday and have wished him good health, a long life and further fruitful work for the good of the Soviet people and in the name of the triumph of communism in our country.

By decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Petr Mironovich Mahserov, candidate member of the CPSU [illegible]ral Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Com[illegible] and Hero of the Soviet Union, has been awarded the title Hero of Socialist Labor, with the presentation of the Order of Lenin and the Gold Hammer and Sickle Medal, for great services to the Communist Party and Soviet state and in connection with his 60th birthday.

[illegible]MANOV ATTENDS LENINGRAD KOMSOMOL REPORT-BACK CONFERENCE

[illegible]0038Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A report-back and election conference of the Leningrad Komsomol organization, which bears the Order of the Red Banner, opened in the Tauride Palace today. It is discussing the Leningrad Komsomol members' fulfillment of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, and also the work on the communist upbringing of young people. Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, is taking part in the work of the conference.

BERDYYEV APPOINTED NEW TURKMEN INTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

LD081329Y Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 1 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] Ashkhabad, 31 January--The Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees:

The appointment of Comrade Redzhep Nuryyevich Berdyyev Turkmen SSR minister of internal affairs.

[Signed] A. Klychev, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; O. Nazarova, secretary of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

NEW CHAIRMAN OF GEORGIAN CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE NAMED

LD101619Y [Editorial Report LD] Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian on 3 February 1978 publishes a Georgian Supreme Soviet Presidium decree appointing Guram Zaalovich Mirianashvili as chairman of the Georgian Council of Ministers State Committee for Construction Affairs, dated 1 February 1978.

The paper also reports the dismissal from that post of I.N. Tsitsishvili.

BRIEFS

AWARD TO ALEKSANDROV--Moscow, February 12, TASS--The highest award of the USSR, the Order of Lenin, has been bestowed on Anatoliy Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, for his great merits in the development and organisation of Soviet science, and on the occasion of his 75th birthday. [Excerpt] [Moscow TASS in English 1636 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

HIGH ACHIEVERS IN COMPETITION TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY NAMED

LD112154Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee have examined the results of all-union socialist competition to improve production efficiency and work quality and the successful fulfillment of the 1977 national economic plan.

The following have been announced as winners and are awarded Challenge Red Banners of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee for successes in development of the national economy: the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Latvia and Armenia. The following have been announced as winners and are awarded with Challenge Red Banners of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee: a number of autonomous republics, krays and oblasts; Moscow and Leningrad; 100 towns and town rayons; 209 autonomous okrugs and village rayons; 1,562 collectives in industrial production, scientific production, interfarm and agro-industrial production and other associations; and individual workers in enterprises, building sites, kolkhozes and sovkhozes, scientific research, planning, design and other organizations and establishments and higher educational establishments, including 760 who are to be entered on the all-union board of honor at the USSR Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy.

The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee have charged party, soviet, trade union, Komsomol and economic organs with making a profound and all-round analysis of the results of all-union socialist competition to improve production efficiency and work quality and the successful fulfillment of the 1977 national economic plan, with drawing up and realizing measures to eliminate the causes of work being hindered in order to strengthen the labor impulse and (?rythm) of competition to mark in a worthy fashion the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution; with insuring from the beginning of the year the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the established state tasks and socialist pledges by every labor collective, rayon, town, oblast, kray and republic; and--in accordance with the tasks ensuing from the decisions of the December 1977 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the speech at that plenum by Comrade Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the letter from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee to the party, soviet, economic, trade union and Komsomol organizations and the working people of the Soviet Union on developing socialist competition for the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the 1978 plan and on increasing the struggle to improve production efficiency and work quality--with working out and realizing measures to further improve the organization of socialist competition and its effectiveness; and with insuring that the valuable initiatives by front-ranking production workers and innovators and the best collectives in socialist competition for the fulfillment of the tasks of the first 3 years of the 5-year period by 7 October 1978--the first anniversary of the adoption of the new USSR Constitution--are spread everywhere.

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee warmly congratulate the winners of all-union socialist competition and express the firm conviction that the workers, farm workers, engineering, technical and scientific workers and working people in all branches of the national economy in realizing the historic decisions of the 25th party congress and the December 1977 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, and in response to the letter from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee, will raise even higher the banner of nationwide socialist competition to improve production efficiency and work quality and for the successful fulfillment of the tasks of the 10th 5-Year Plan and will achieve new successes in communist construction.

MOSCOW RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL NEWS FOR 7-10 FEBRUARY

LD110446 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0100 GMT on 7 January notes that the USSR Ministry of Agriculture reports that snow was retained on 57 million hectares in December and January.

At 0500 GMT on 9 February the radio reports that snow retention has been completed on nearly 2.5 million hectares in Omskaya Oblast.

At 0500 GMT on 10 February the radio notes that farms in Gorkovskaya Oblast have completed preparing cereal seeds for spring sowing. Almost 90 percent of the seeds are of the first or second standard. Some 100,000 hectares of land is to be sown with a promising (?Luch) strain of barley.

RESOLUTION ON IMPROVING SUGAR BEET, POTATO STRAINS

LD101617Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 2 LD

[From TASS-attributed "Official Section": "An Important Reserve for Increasing Yield"]

[Text] In his report at the 25th CPSU Congress Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted that to increase the efficiency of agriculture the development of selection and seed-growing has great significance. "In the assessment of specialists," he pointed out, "seed-growing which is well organized in good time can increase yield by at least 20 percent." Improvement of selection work in raising qualitatively new, more productive strains and hybrids of agricultural crops is envisaged in "the main directions for the development of the USSR national economy for 1976-1980."

Proceeding from this premise, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a resolution on improving sugar beet and potato selection and seed-growing work.

In accordance with the resolution "on additional measures for improving selection and seed-growing work in sugar beet growing," the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry, the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences [VASKHNIL], the Soyuzselkhoztekhnika, and the party and soviet organs of the RSFSR, the Ukrainian SSR, the Belorussian SSR, the Kazakh SSR, the Moldavian SSR and the Kirgiz SSR must insure:

The elaboration and implementation of measures to accelerate the creation and introduction into production of highly productive sugar beet strains and hybrids suitable for mechanized cultivation;

The full satisfaction of the annual requirement of kolkhozes and sovkhozes for high-quality zoned strains of sugar beet seeds and the creation by 1980 of a carry-over reserve of primary seeds at least as large as the annual requirement for them;

The raising of the yield and a considerable improvement in the quality of sugar beet seeds, the further specialization of seed-growing sovkhozes and the concentration of seed production in the regions most favorable for raising them;

The provision of sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises engaged in raising sugar beet seeds, within the next 2-3 years, with driers, mechanized lines and other machinery for the cleaning and post-harvest treatment of sugar beet seeds, and the construction in seed-growing farms of the necessary number of storehouses for seeds and covered threshing floors with hard roofs.

For the timely performance of their work, the specialized farms which grow sugar beet seed must be assigned the necessary quantity of mineral fertilizers, herbicides and toxic chemicals and also tractors, trucks, grain harvesting combines and agricultural machinery.

The USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the USSR Ministry of Industrial Construction must construct in the sugar beet scientific research institution hothouses for selection purposes and stores for root planting stocks, and the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and the Ministry of Agriculture must develop designs and organize the production of machinery to mechanize work in the selection, strain testing and initial seed growing of sugar beets.

The resolution outlines measures for a sharp increase in the production of sugar beet seeds by the nontransplanation method. Measures are envisaged for increasing the seed-growing farms' degree of material interest in increasing the production of seeds and improving their quality, particularly the introduction of supplements (or reductions) on the purchase prices for seeds and the award of bonuses to workers for high quality seeds.

In accordance with the resolution "on measures to improve potato selection and seed-growing," the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the VASKHNIL and the party and soviet organs of the RSFSR, the Ukrainian SSR, the Belorussian SSR, the Kazakh SSR, the Lithuanian SSR, the Latvian SSR and the Estonian SSR must implement appropriate measures in this sphere and insure:

Further intensification of the specialization and concentration of potato selection work in the selection centers and leading scientific research institutions, the strengthening of their material and technical base, and their staffing with qualified cadres;

The accelerated development and introduction into production of new, highly productive strains of potatoes with different economic functions and ripening rates according with the demands of intensive crops farming, with a potential yield of 400-600 quintals per hectare, with a high dry matter content, comprehensive immunity to the main diseases and suitable for mechanized cultivation and harvesting and long-term storage;

The creation of a network of specialized farms for the initial potato seed-growing and for cultivating an elite strain (with the construction of the appropriate complexes in accordance with the set targets) and for the production of a high-grade seed potato for export to other union republics and for meeting requirements within a republic.

The task has been set of insuring production sowings of potatoes with seeds of not more than the third to fifth reproductions. Targets have been set for the production of elite potato seeds and for the delivery of high-quality seed potatoes to those regions of the country where its production has been complicated because of climatic conditions.

Measures are envisaged for raising the seed-growing farms' material interest in increasing the production of high-quality, high-grade potatoes.

COSMONAUTS' ACTIVITIES CONTINUE ABOARD SALYUT-6-SOYUZ-27

Day of Active Rest

LD101108Y Moscow TASS in English 1059 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Flight control centre, February 10, TASS--The crew of the orbital scientific research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 today had a day of active rest. After getting up, the cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko conducted a cycle of daily medical control. The crew next made a routine check of the systems and units of the spacecraft.

The cosmonauts also did exercises at the complex trainer and veldergometer. During the day the crew are systematizing the results of researches and experiments, conducted earlier, are working on technical flight documentation and resting.

Under the programme of environmental studies, the cosmonauts continue observation of the earth's surface. During the flight of the orbital complex over the Central Asian republics, the crew conducted visual observation and took photos of glaciers and the snow cover of mountain regions.

The health of the cosmonauts is sound and they felt well. The on-board systems of the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 function smoothly.

9 Weeks of Manned Flight

LD111336Y Moscow TASS in English 1238 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 11, TASS--TASS correspondent reports from the flight control centre: Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko are already nine weeks in an orbital flight. The crew of the space scientific-research complex Salyut-7-Soyuz-27 continues the planned explorations and experiments.

Under the programme of technical experiments the cosmonauts carried out the testing and adjustment of new optical instruments of celestial guidance and space navigation, used for manual and automatic control of the station in its flight both on the light and the dark side of the earth. In the course of the experiments the crew assessed the methods of work with instruments and determined their characteristics.

Experiments are continuing under the programme of exploration of physical processes in the upper atmosphere of the earth.

The cosmonauts are carrying out visual observation and are taking pictures of polar lights, silvery clouds. In a radiocommunication session today the Cosmonauts Petr Klimuk and Vitaliy Sevastyanov, who in summer 1975 made a 63-day orbital flight in the Salyut-4 station, congratulated the Salyut-6 crew on exceeding their achievements and wished Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko successful continuation of the flight.

According to the data of telemetric information and the crew's reports, the systems of the space Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 complex are functioning normally. The cosmonauts feel well.

Progress of Work Reviewed

LD1[illegible]850Y Moscow TASS in English 1822 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 11, TASS--A TASS special correspondent reports from the flight control centre:

The space expedition, which began on December 10 by the launching of the Soyuz-26 spaceship, are starting their third month in orbit. On Saturday, February 11, ground controllers congratulated Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko on another jubilee: Exactly nine weeks since the beginning of their work on board the Salyut-6. Today the cosmonauts are going beyond the record-long duration of flights on the Salyut orbital stations, set earlier by Petr Klimuk and Vitaliy Sevastyanov.

An examination of the crew, as A. Yegorov, director of the medical support group, reported, convinced once again that the state of the crew's health is characterised by the signs of the cosmonauts reaching a state of stable adaptation of weightlessness.

In the present long flight, he said, we are solving not only purely practical tasks of ensuring the working capacity of the crew, who are accomplishing big scientific and economic tasks, but are also accumulating new data for more daring projects of space medicine.

Engineers added new vivid achievements to Soviet science and technology. The director of the flight, Cosmonaut Aleksey Yelisev, considers the present flight an important step towards securing that the work in the space shop of the country's national economy be conducted more effectively, with lesser expenditure of means and with a higher efficiency of the utilization of space technology.

Even a mere enumeration of major moments of the flight is indicative of the high quality of the space expedition of 1977-1978 on the basis of the Salyut-6 orbital station. Three times within two months the station hosted spacecraft and twice saw them off. These five dynamic operations went off flawlessly, according to flight directors' appraisals.

Salyut-6 Nearing 1,000 Orbits

LD121258Y Moscow TASS in English 1251 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 12, TASS--TASS special correspondent reports from the flight control centre: The orbital scientific station Salyut-6 will complete this evening 1,000 orbits around the earth with the crew on board.

Another working day of the Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko was devoted to prophylactic checks at the station and observers of the earth's surface and the atmosphere.

The cosmonauts installed at the assigned place and switched into operation the new air filter of the life-supporting system that was brought to the station in the automatic transport ship Progress-1.

Throughout the day the cosmonauts made visual observations and photographed different areas of the land and the world ocean of the earth.

Of great interest for scientists are also regular reports of the crew on natural calamities observed from space: dust storms, forest fires, volcanic activity.

According to the data of telemetric information and reports of the crew, the onboard systems of the manned complex function normally and the parametres of the microclimate in the working compartments are close to those on earth. The cosmonauts are in good health and feel well. The manned orbital complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 continues its flight.

'BEREZINA' MILITARY EXERCISES IN BELORUSSIA END 10 FEBRUARY

LD101428Y Moscow TASS in English 1419 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 10, TASS--The exercises of troops of the Belorussian Military District, held in the area of Minsk, Orsha and Polotsk, ended on February 10, the Defence Ministry of the USSR reported. The aims set to the exercises have been reached. The troops that took part in the exercises are returning to their winter quarters. The exercises were commanded by General Mikhail Zaytsev, commander of the troops of the district. Military observers of Belgium, the GDR, the FRG, the Netherlands, the Polish People's Republic, Britain, the United States, France, Czechoslovakia and Switzerland, who were present at the exercises, left the Soviet Union.

Zaytsev Assesses Exercises

LD102036Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The "Berezina" troop exercises ended today. Col Gen Mikhail Mitrofonovich Zaytsev, commander of the exercises and of the Red Banner Belorussian Military District's tank troops, gave a press conference for journalists. In his statement he said in part:

[Zaytsev--recorded] The "Berezina" troop exercises took place on the eve of the 60th anniversary of our glorious armed forces. All planned training objectives were attained. The troops which took part in the exercises demonstrated increased combat skills, an excellent grasp and--what is particularly important--confident handling of the most complex and most up-to-date military equipment. We also succeeded in quite comprehensively mastering the main objective of our exercises: to master the interaction of the various branches of the service, the forces and the equipment, which were all involved in the exercises on quite a large scale. Combat firing [voevyye strelby] by all branches of the service and air strikes by planes and combat helicopters made it possible to improve the quality of the organization of combat actions in conditions as close as possible to a real combat situation.

On the whole one must note that, regardless of the complexity of the situation created during the exercises, all participants demonstrated a high degree of physical training, moral steadfastness, unswerving determination and readiness to fulfill their tasks in the defense of the socialist gains and their internationalist duty.

The successful solution of tasks in the course of the exercises was promoted by the great organizational work of our generals and officers, skilfully organized party-political work in the education of the personnel based on the remarkable combat traditions of the heroic past, and the all-round assistance on the part of the Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party, the government and the working people of the republic.

At the invitation of the Soviet Government, the exercises were attended by military observers from a number of European countries and the United States. This testifies to the fact that the CPSU and the Soviet Government consistently implement the Leninist foreign policy line and strictly implement all international agreements aiming at a relaxation of tension, including the provisions of the final act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. [end recording]

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

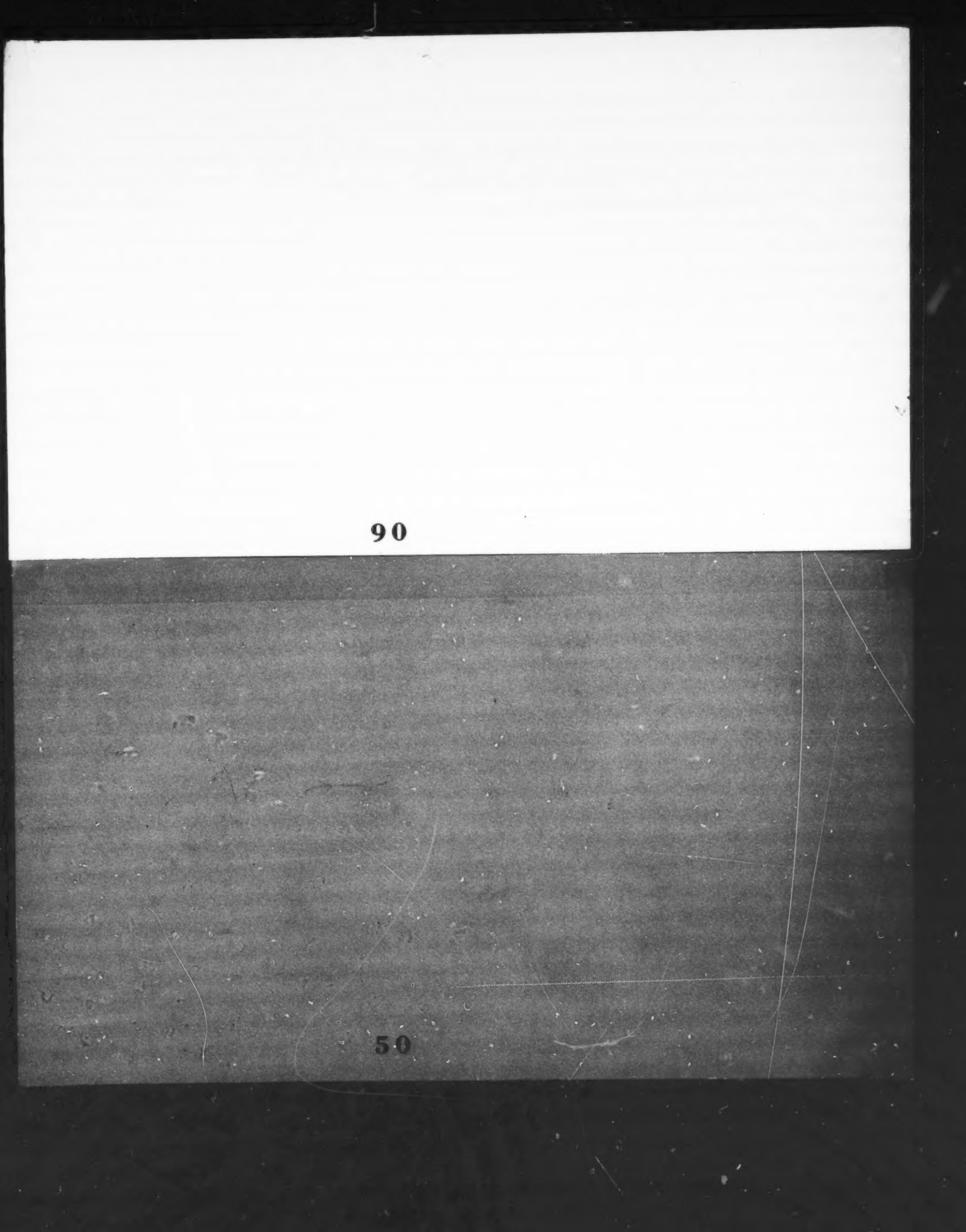
DAILY REPORT volumes are published Monday through Friday in both paper version (mailed daily) and microfiche version (mailed weekly). Annual subscription including occasional supplements is, for the first volume, $125 paper/$100 fiche; each additional area volume up to seven, $70 paper/$60 fiche; all eight volumes $575 paper/$500 fiche. Foreign subscription for the first volume $160 paper/$125 fiche; each additional area volume up to seven, $70 paper/$60 fiche; all eight volumes for $610 paper/$525 fiche. Each additional paper or fiche subscription beyond eight is $50. The volumes are: I—People's Republic of China; II—Eastern Europe; III—Soviet Union; IV—Asia & Pacific; V—Middle East & North Africa; VI—Latin America; VII—Western Europe; VIII—Sub-Saharan Africa. Back issues or single copies are not available. Allow 30 days for processing new subscriptions. Mail remittances, inquiries, and address changes to the NTIS address below.

Note: The publications of the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS), which are sometimes cited in the DAILY REPORT, can also be ordered from NTIS in single copies or by subscription. In ordering, please cite the JPRS title, number, date, and author if applicable.

Both the DAILY REPORT and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at public and university libraries throughout the United States.

NTIS

National Technical Information Service
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Springfield, Virginia 22151


90
50